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February, 1955

illesell Power



CALGARY, CANADA, FEBRUARY, 1905.

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THE FARM AND RANCH REVIEW

The Burns Ranch, Calgary, Alberta

BARD S 560 F225 v.51: no.2

1955

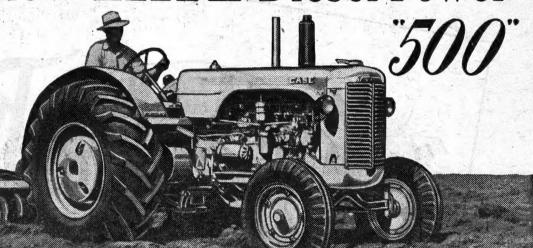
Golden Jubilee

# STEP

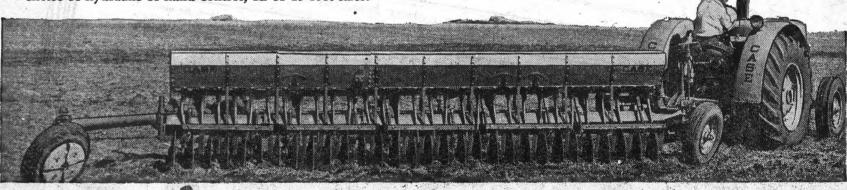
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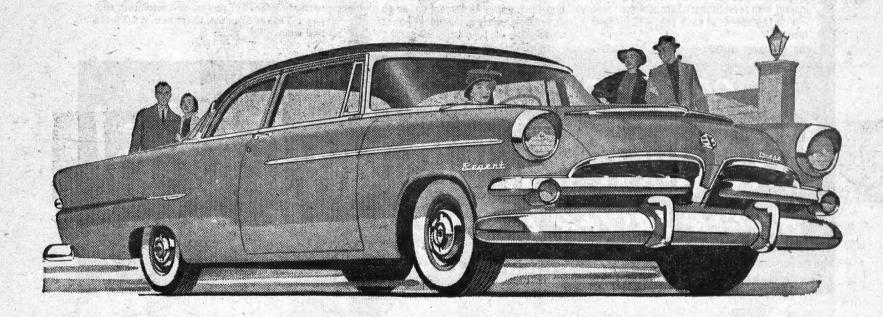
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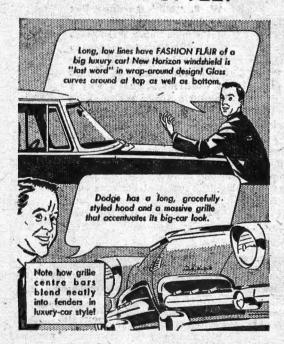
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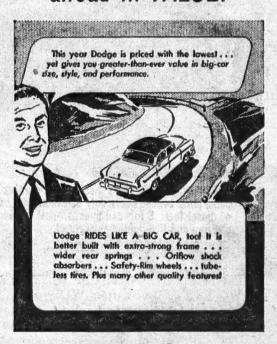
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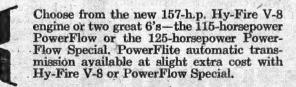
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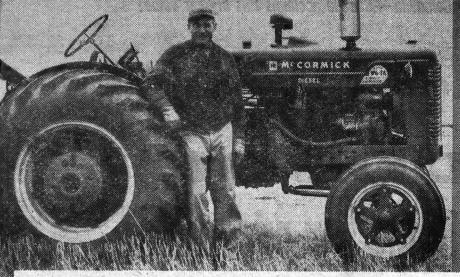
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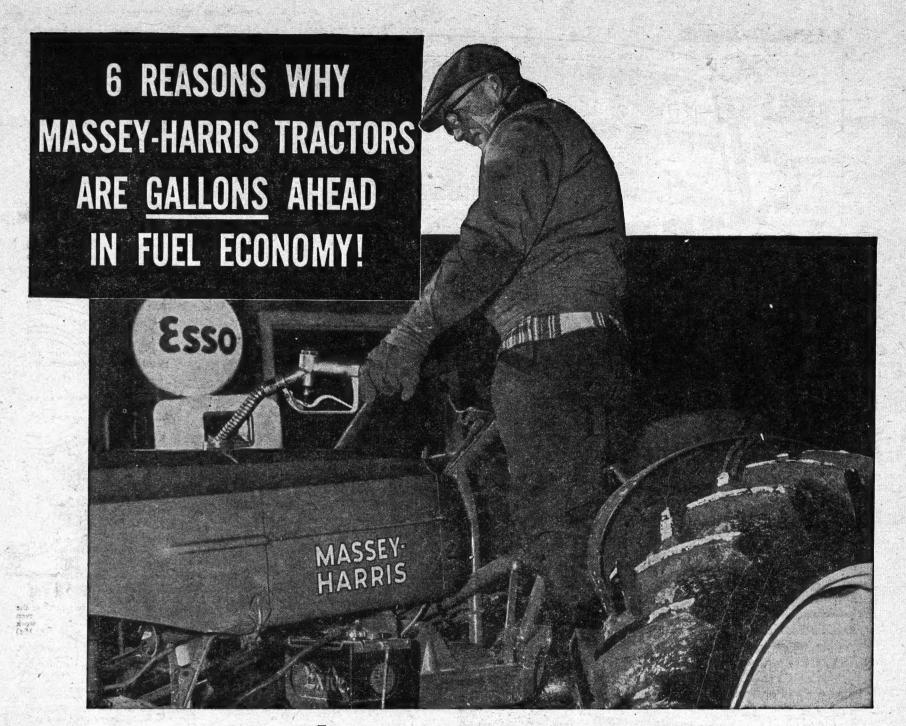


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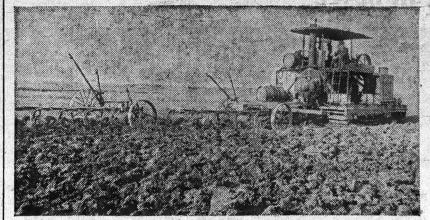
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## Farm and Ranch Review

706 - 2nd Avenue West, Calgary, Alberta

Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson Vol. Ll.

James H. Gray, Editor

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## The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

## It's Our Golden Jubilee

PIFTY YEARS AGO this month, the publishers' statement which we have reproduced here, launched the Farm and Ranch Review. So, with this issue, we mark our Golden Jubilee of service to the farmers of Western Canada.

A Jubilee is always a time of evaluation, of looking back over the record and looking ahead into the future. We are devoting most of this issue to doing just that. Whether this magazine has justified its existence or not we leave for others to decide. Even to have survived for 50 years in the sort of economic weather we have experienced is no mean feat in itself. At the very least, the oldest farm magazine west of Toronto should on its Jubilee be permitted to claim special powers of endurance that many of its early competitors lacked.

The world into which the Farm and Ranch Review was born would be a strange, even awesome place, for today's Strange children. It was a very good world, in many ways; a very bad world in others. Let's take a look at it. It was a world of peace, of superb confidence and a time in which to be up and doing. It was a world of freedom. People everywhere could pack up and go anywhere they liked. There were no concentration camps, no iron curtains, no cold wars and no hot wars.

It was still a world in which there were frontiers to attract the venturesome, a world in which people had complete confidence in their ability to solve their own problems for themselves. It was a world with a profound respect for learning, in which reading and discussing reached their fullest flower. It was a world in which people worked up intense interests. Henry George had set his Single Tax theory loose, and in the pioneer west Single Taxers laid plans to get their ideas adopted when the new provinces were formed. They succeeded as no other movement ever succeeded before or since.

Karl Marx's Socialist theories were being pushed with vigor in continental Europe, while the milder Fabians were carrying the torch in England and Scotland. The newlyformed American Federation of Labor was chartering unions in Canadian cities, while the pioneer farmers of the West were, as always, dividing their allegiance between two or three rival organizations.

Every boat brought new thousands of families for Western Canada from the British Isles. Other thousands flocked into the West from Eastern Canada and the United States. Everywhere, land was free for the taking. It was a sort of dawn of a new time, though nobody understood it then. We were nearing the end of an era that had lasted for hundreds of years. It was an era of the horse and wagon and yoke of oxen and the cast-iron plow and the most cumbersome cast-iron machinery.

In machine shops all over the continent, mechanics were tinkering with steam engines and putting them on wheels. Others were converting from steam to kerosene and gasoline and the modern tractors was striving to be born.

That was the 1905 in which the Farm and Ranch was started. Why did it sur-

## Publisher's Announcement—

(In the FIRST ISSUE of the Farm and Ranch Review, February, 1905)

In launching a new agricultural publication we do not feel that an apology is due, neither does it appear that it is necessary to enter into lengthy explanations as to its policy or particular mission in the agricultural life of Western Canada. The agricultural paper ought to be the interpreter of science to its patrons. The editors read and digest bulletins and publications on agricultural subjects from every corner of the civilized world, and in travelling through the country enjoy opportunities of learning direct from the farmers and ranchers of their failures and successes. They apply the conclusions arrived at to local conditions and thus present to their readers the gist of agricultural discoveries and progress from time to time.

We cannot, however, persuade ourselves that our chief mission is to teach farmers how to farm and ranchers how to ranch. What-ever knowledge our editorial staff possesses on these subjects is at the disposal of our readers, but we are rather strongly imbued with the much greater importance of occupying the somewhat strenuous position of watch-dog. The farmers and ranchers for reasons yet to be explained, generally send a business or professional man to represent them in public assemblies. He seldom properly appreciates the requirements of agricultural industries and is frequently by training and instincts antagonistic to the class that elected him. Corporations and individuals vie with each other in combining for the avowed purpose of selling to the farmer and rancher at the highest price and buying from them at the lowest prices they can endure and still exist. Ten business firms can combine and dictate terms to ten thousand ranchers and farmers, while the latter, through sheer unwieldiness cannot create any effective organization and are therefore often forced to submit. The remedy, if such exists, is publicity, and unswerving determination on the part of our public men to be faithful to their trust.

The section of the public to which "The Review" specially caters is generally more impressed by performance than promise. We shall, therefore, be content with resting our case on our future record, giving our readers the assurance that we do not propose to be muzzled by any individual corporation or government, and expressing the conviction that with the loyal support and patronage of the farmers and ranchers of Western Canada, we shall honorably discharge the important duties devolving on an agricultural journal in a new and rapidly developing country.

vive while so many other magazines went under? We think a key to the answer is to be found in the publishers' announcement.

C. W. Peterson, M. D. Geddes and E. L. Richardson, who founded it, wanted to set themselves up in business as Farmers' "watch dogs" of the interest of Watch Dog the farmers. It was a function to which the farmers through the years have given their approval.

In going back over the Farm and Ranch, it quickly becomes clear that none of its various editors, including the most recent, had much gift for prophecy. But there seems to have been one consistently persistent streak in Farm and Ranch editors — they have all been exceedingly outspoken.

Over the years, The Farm and Ranch has been wrong about as often as it has been right when it has gone into the prediction business. There is no record of the farmers ever taking umbrage at error. Perhaps any organ of equal vigor would have fallen, with equal force, into error. The farmers seemed to appreciate and to support the Farm and Ranch for the vigor of the opinions it expressed.

Back in 1905, there was nothing particularly unusual in the boisterous expression of opinion. Nobody worried about libel laws in those days and there was surely plenty of cause for being outrageously indignant.

For the pioneer of Saskatchewan and

Alberta, this was a period of exploitation.

Their land was free, but they were Always fair game for everything else. In Soaked our early issues, farmers were urged to protect their interests by installing their own scales. Weights and measures were not to be trusted. The elevator companies and coal merchants and storekeepers all seemed equipped with scales that gave the farmers the worst of it. For almost 20 years, there was always a Royal Commission of one sort or other coming and going through the West. Gradually the more rapacious practices of the eleva-

In their efforts to escape from the clutches of their exploiters, the pioneer farmers turned to many ideas. For a long time they were boisterous free traders and tariffs were denounced without pause. They turned to government ownership and then to co-operatives. And in all these thrashing and mental twisting and turning the Farm and Ranch gave vigorous leadership.

tors, the railways, the meat packers and

others were brought under control.

The years of the founding of the Farm and Ranch were primarily years of ideas. The people who poured into the West from abroad brought ideas with them. The pot that melted the people of the West into a cohesive whole, melted their ideas as well. And it was a time of faith in ideas, faith that was the product of reading and thinking in an age when men had time to think.

There was no radio, no television and no airplane had yet lifted from the ground. The human eyes, ears and mind were not being bombarded round the clock with ideas, with advertising, with pleas for this or that activity. The nights were long. Life was isolated in the sod huts and frame shanties of the pioneers. Thinking and reading passed the time and gave zest to life. It was an

(Continued on page 10)

## Farm and Ranch Editorials This was where we came in—

IN going back over the early issues of the Farm and Ranch, we were sharply reminded of the philosopher's dictum that the more things change, the more they are the same.

One of the very first editorials dealt with the need for better roads in the territory. Another dealt with the damage done to the roads by the trucks of that era—the wagons with the narrow tires.

There was need, the Farm and Ranch said, for the establishment of an irrigation experimental farm and school. It urged farmers to take advantage of the free supplies of trees that the Dominion Government offered to homesteaders. It gave plenty of space to the advocacy of growing alfalfa. It never tired preaching about the improvement of livestock quality.

True, the early editors had their pet foibles and prejudices. Mr. Peterson was obviously a great booster of the Clydesdale horse. An issue seldom went to press without a picture of a handsome Clyde in it some place. Supporters of the Belgian and Percheron complained, but the complaints were ignored.

In those days, when Saskatchewan and Alberta were part of the North West Territories, the big noise in farm organizations was the Territorial Grain Growers' Association. Ultimately it became the United Grain Growers. The two-page section it took in the Farm and Ranch became the Grain Growers' Guide and later the Country Guide.

Before the first war, farmers and their organizations lived in a perpetual state of high dudgeon. Fashions in ogres Always changed with the seasons. In the Angry fall, when the grain harvest was on, the railways and grain merchants drew most of the denunciation. During the winter, it was the coal dealers. With

the population doubling and redoubling there was always a shortage of coal when the weather was cold. At other times of the year the meat packers and other combines were the main targets for abuse.

During those years, public ownership was the great panacea. Let the government build elevators, take over packing plants, take over the railways and utilities! The trouble was that where Government ownership was tried out, as with elevators for example, it didn't work much better than under private ownership. Indeed, in Manitoba some government elevators were sold because of lack of patronage.

Thinking then changed to farmer ownership. The Grain Growers' Grain Company was established after a brawl with the Grain Exchange. It later became the U.G.G. The banks, with their high interest rates and high handed policies were another ogre. So a move was started to organize a better bank. The early ads of the Grain Growers' Grain Company in the Farm and Ranch carried appeals to farmers to buy stock in the Union Bank, which went broke in the 1920's.

The whole story of the evolution of farming can be traced through the advertising columns of the Farm and Ranch. The machinery which Machines Sawyer-Massey (now Massey-Harris-Ferguson) and International Harvester advertised in 1905 was crude and cumbersome. The steam tractors were as big as locomotives. The iron wheels had great lugs bolted to them to increase traction. Windmills and pumps, cream separators and stationary engines were regularly featured in the ads.

Eaton's and Simpsons were steady advertisers of ladies' clothes through their mail-order departments. The land companies were just getting organized. The

(Continued from page 9)

age in which people loved an argument. Writing letters to the editors was a favorite indoor winter sport in the West of 1905.

So pioneer editors like Mr. Peterson and Mr. Geddes had a double function. They gave ideas circulation and they gathered in ideas from their readers and tried to give them direction. It was natural in those days that this magazine should consist mainly of the editorial pages, the letters page and advertising.

In recent years, the forces that have exerted so great a change in our society seem to have watered down the edilocal and torial pages, not only of farm magazines but city papers as well. We have lost our faith in our ideas and ideals, so we tend to become statesmanlike. We don't know what to advocate because we are unsure of what we believe. So we make a fetish out of objectivity, of fairness, of reasonableness.

We like Mr. Peterson's conception of his function better. "We propose to be the farm-

ers' watch dog", he said. In effect what he was saying was this:

"Okay, we are on your side, what is the argument about and who do we fight?"

Not a very "reasonable" position to take, to be sure. But look at the mess that "reason" has often caused when its advocates have made it into a cult! How much better, now and then, to let our best instincts guide our actions; to be guided by loyalty to our friends and not by the logic of our mental processes. After all, a good watch dog doesn't have to be clever, or capable of finely reasoned judgments. It has only to rush to the defense whenever the interests it is protecting are threatened; and to do this regardless of from which direction the threat may come.

By trying to do that, the Farm and Ranch has reached its Golden Jubilee, and over the rockiest trail we are ever likely to see. As we head for the next milestone, we think it unnecessary to do any more than reprint the publisher's announcement from the first issue. When it came to aims and objectives, it said all that needs to be said. We'll just go along trying to live up to that.

liquor companies could legally advertise their products and even offer free samples. But the big advertising volume came from livestock. The horse breeders were in by the score. So were the beef cattle breeders. At first it was almost all Shorthorn advertising. Then the Herefords and Angus breeders got started and gradually the white faces gained the largest following.

By 1910, the first automobiles had made their appearance in the advertisements. So had kerosene and gasoline tractors. But it was not until the 1930's that the tractors really went for rubber tires with much consistency. Curiously enough, the first Caterpillar tractor built in California in 1904 was equipped with power steering. How it worked we don't know, but there's a picture of it in this issue and you'll see why it HAD to have power of some sort to turn it.

In the early days, makers of patent medicine had a field day. There was no limit imposed on the claims they could make for their nostrums, so they claimed cures for everything. They even sent free samples to prospective buyers, until the Dominion Government passed a law forbidding that practice. The Farm and Ranch, however, policed its columns mildly to keep the most blatant at bay.

## A letter from the editor

WHETHER the year of the founding of the Farm and Ranch was best described as "the good old days" or the "bad old days" can be argued either way, with equal cogency.

Actually there has been plenty of both good and bad in all eras and the one through which we have been travelling is no exception. For a summary of what was good with the "good old days" our readers are directed to page 12. Next month, we'll take the other side of the argument and see where we wind up. After that, we'd like to have the reactions of our readers for publication.

To make room for the historical material which we have loaded into this issue, we have had to drop some of our regular features. Included are a number of interesting letters which we will make it a point of running in our March issue.

Our plans are to lean rather heavily on historical material throughout the rest of the year. We'd like to see anything our readers care to write on historical themes. We'd also like to see any old photographs that are clear and sharp. There is one proviso—the themes should be of general rather than local interest.

In our future issues we plan to devote some space to more stories of the pioneer makers of farm machinery. We think our readers will find the story of the first caterpillar tractors in this issue most interesting.

Our cover for this issue requires a word of explanation. The picture on the cover of our very first issue was not capable of being reprinted. So we took a picture from the second issue and superimposed it on the original cover. The original cover was designed by Mr. J. D. McAra, a pioneer Calgary printer who is still in business in the city.

## The old timers called a spade a !-?:,;-?'spade!

Back in 1905, the farmer readers of the Farm and Ranch had plenty of time during the long winter evenings for brooding over the ills that afflicted them. Then they would collect their thoughts in letters to the editor. We thought our readers of today might find these epistles interesting or amusing. Here, then, is a collection of letters to the editor of the Farm and Ranch away back in the beginning:

BY IVAN HELMER

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your article, "Live and Let Live." We who are from the States have all due respect for the flag under which we now live. However, because an Indian (possibly from across the border) rode in front of your camera carrying a flag is no reason why the "Herald" should hump its back and bawl. Thank God we are not all narrow-minded; that's what causes the wrong feeling. You have the proper spirit; it is the way the situation should be handled — respect the outside peaceful flag. We know what flag we live under and respect it. Our grandparents were from the mother country, so remains the feeling.

Yours very respectfully, George L. Bates.

Dear Sirs:

A few weeks ago I saw a letter in the "Herald" complaining about a dairy farmer who bought stable manure and gave it to his cows to pick over. The editor said if such was the case a stop should be put to such a practice as the milk supplied to Calgary was already bad enough.

Well, now, I have a few good milch cows and they eat stable manure. Aye, and fight for it. What am I to do? Stand with a club and guard the dung-hill? I have thrown out good hay, but still they won't leave the manure. It can't be they require salt as salt is always within reach. What takes their fancy I don't know, but I don't think it injures the milk as I use it myself and never knew a day's illness.

Yours respectfully, Jas. Vert.

Dear Editor:

I was never a believer in outrageously long hours, but I have always adhered closely to the principle of starting in good time in the morning; to have all the men who worked with me start off promptly at five o'clock. The first hour of the morning was spent in choring, and the next half hour for breakfast, so that by 6:30 we were able to begin the day's work. Now, mind you, this was every morning and not just once in awhile. I have had a good deal of trouble with help in getting them to stir around by this time, but I never would keep a man who wouldn't comply with the request. We aimed to have

our work done by 6 o'clock and seldom later than 6:30. Our help then had the evening to themselves for recreation and rest.

( No name signed.)

Dear Sir:

I have read the articles on "Color Craze", "Discrimination", "Prejudice", etc., in Shorthorn cattle, but still in my opinion the name Shorthorn includes too much. It seems to include all colors, types, and kinds. Did someone say, "Dairy Shorthorns", or "Milking Shorthorns", or "Milking Shorthorns". I wonder if the writers of these articles would like to head their herds with a black-nosed Shorthorn bull? All other breeds have distinct color and distinct markings together with distinct type and form. Why, then, should not the Shorthorns? I advocate dividing them into three or four breeds of distinct color and type and have them registered in as many different herdbooks.——

A. P. Olson.

Alberta.

Dear Sirs:

Your paper deserves patronage. It is a credit to you and to our province. It is always a welcome visitor to our home. Every farmer should read it.

R. Sheppard, Vice-Pres. Alberta Farmers' Assoc.

Editor:

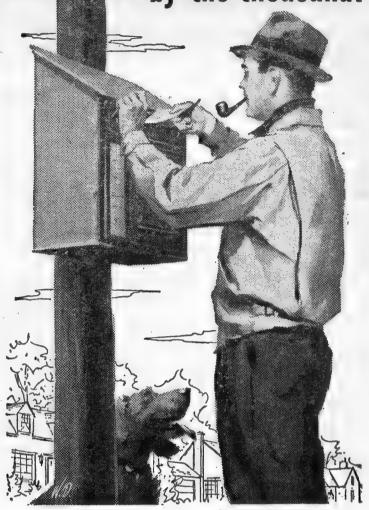
In your last issue there appeared a report of Alberta's Spring Horse and Fat Stock Show. Much was said about the Clydes shown. In fact, Shires, Percherons and Belgians had to be content with bare mention. Why this predjudice in favor of the Clydes? I have had some experience with Shires and Percherons, pure-bred and grades, and I know very few practical farmers (except Scotchmen) who put Clydes before Shires and Percherons.

Why do farmers prefer the latter? Surely they are not all fools. Why do contractors prefer Shires and Percherons? We must credit them with some horse-sense. Now why is it that these men who make their living with horses do not favor the Clydes? I think you will find it is because they favor easy feeding qualities and stamina better than big legs and feet.

(Signed)

Lover of a Good Horse.

He's helping to build homes by the thousand!



HOW can posting a letter help build homes?

This trick is not as difficult as you may think. In fact, you have probably done it yourself.

Actually, this man is simply mailing a payment on his life insurance policy. And the houses he's helping to build are the result of investments made for him out of that money by his life insurance company.

In the same way, every life insurance policy-holder renders many other valuable services to his fellow-citizens. For investments may also be made for him in ways that help finance new roads, schools, waterworks and many other important developments.

So, if you own life insurance, remember — while you're building security for your family and yourself, you're also helping to make Canada a better land to live in!



P.S. from your life insurance man

"Invested life insurance dollars earn interest that makes it possible for you and your family to enjoy the benefits of life insurance at such low cost. If you have any questions about how to make life insurance fit your own special needs, give me a call. I'll be glad to help you!"

## THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA

Comprising more than 50 Canadian, British and United States Companies
"It is Good Citizenship to own Life Insurance" L-1854C

## You could live a good life in a friendly, peaceful world

FOR young Canadians to get of a violently swaying limb, it divided their time arguing about their own today is harder, even, than for them to become atomic the world was then.

of a violently swaying limb, it divided their time arguing about the three main ideas and trying to get them enacted into laws.

In those days, a man could get than for them to become atomic scientists. How much easier and better were things back in 1905 when the Farm and Ranch Review was founded!

You didn't need \$15,000 worth of equipment and \$25,000 in cash. You needed only willing hands, a strong back and the determination to get a farm of your own. You filed on a homestead, proved it up while you earned your living, and something left over, working in the neighborhood. Today, you'd die of old age before you made yourself a farm in that fashion.

Everybody Equal

It was a time of neighborliness. Over wide stretches it was an equalitarian West. Nobody had very much. Every-body was working to get a start in life. It was an age when a man was accepted at his face value. If he was a hard worker, and that was the one big test of the frontier, his neighbors would help him all they could. People had to rely on themselves, and on each other in those days. They were busy days and there never seemed to be enough time to accommodate all the jobs that had to be

But they were days when you could see what you were accomplishing. You could see the changes the opening up of the West was making, in your friends and in the neighborhood and in the nation. Already, in 1905, a catch-phrase had gained wide currency. It went: in, get rich and get out."

It was an age when it was possible to live off the land. You grew the food for your family and your stock and swapped surplus food for other necessities. Necessities were much fewer then than now. There were no electric lights, no radios, even the gramophone was unrefined and scratchy and squeaky. For \$50, a man could outfit his whole family with winter clothes and have enough left over for a couple of beds and some kitchen chairs and a

#### No Wars

The news that reached the farms in those days was sketchy but usually pleasant. were no serious wars going on. Seldom before in world history had so many people had it so good. Trade boomed, all over the world and the shadow of Germany had not risen far enough to fill the world with fear and later with horror. The British navy ruled the seas and kept the peace of the world. Looking back on it all from our own troubled perch at the end

Soon the Germans would follow the Kaiser into the most horrible war the world had seen up until then. It took millions of lives, spread ruin over the face of Europe and destroyed social orders that had endured for hundreds of years.

In those days, a man could get on familiar terms with his ideas. In the first place, there were only a few of them. In the second place he was not being forever interrupted in his thinking by new demands on his mind. He didn't have to learn to run complicated machinery, listen to the telephone,

- by James H. Gray -

That war was to be followed by 20 years of world-wide social upheaval, culminating in Hitler and the blot he left on civilization that a 100 years of atonement will not erase.

in 1905 there nothing to trouble the serenity of life. If luxuries were few and wants simple, so were the ideas that motivated our society. There was the idea of Freedom of Trade. Everybody in the West was a free trader, if he lived on a farm. Men devoting their best hours of thinking and reading to trade topics. Or, they toyed with ideas of solving the liquor problem by complete prohibition. They thought perhaps that poverty could

the radio, television, read newspapers and magazines by the

All these avenues of communication create pressure on the mind. To the proliferation of means of communication was added the vast proliferation that has occurred in ideas themselves. So today, who has time to collect his thoughts and quietly sort out his ideas?

When problems arose, as they did quickly when the country was being settled, men could come up with simple answers. When they got pushed around by the elevator companies, they did not seek solutions in the esoteric hallucinations of Soovercome by Freedom of Trade, cialism, Fascism, or Social Prohibition and perhaps Henry Credit. They said, simply, "let's George's Single Tax. So they get the Government to build

some elevators." When that didn't work out too well, they said that they should build their own elevators. So they did.

Or they wanted the railways to let them load their own grain in box-cars. The railways re-fused. The farmers raised such a storm of protest that the railways were forced to accede to the demand. Simple ideas, surely, and ideas that everybody could understand.

And it was a country in which ideas paid off: When a fellow with initiative and energy could really make a pile. Jimmy Ashdown could build a tinker's dam into a great department store, Simpson's and Eatons got into the mail-order business on a grand scale. Pat Burns built a meat packing empire. Hutchings made the harness for a million teams of farm horses. The Bawlfs and Thompsons and Richardsons were hitching a ride to fortune on the torrent of golden prairie

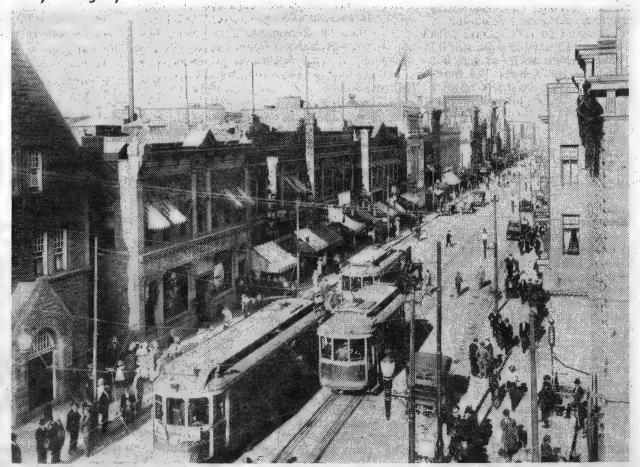
It was a time when a man could keep what he could make. That was true of the biggest tycoons and of the farmers. There was no income tax; no endless nights of bookkeeping and tax returns. There was no sales tax. There was only the tariff to raise a man's blood pressure.

In the year 1905, perhaps one of the most interesting parasites of the era was the book salesman. He was the last word in glibness, slicker even than the patent medicine huckster.

#### Favorite Authors

Many's the farmer who wound up with fancy bound sets of the works of Charles

Early Calgary



This picture of Calgary about the time of the First World War, is from the collection of the Canadian Pacific

Dickens, Poe, Lever, Dumas, Mark Twain, Cooper, Scott and Hawthorne, which the whole family had to read to get their money's worth out of them. And when the family dug in for the winter, it was a wonderful thing to have plenty of reading material on hand,

Aside from reading, the amusements of the frontier community were home-made and simple. Community entertainment centered around the churches and schools. But the most popular pastime in the winter months was described by a word long since dropped from the language. That word is "neighboring". When a farmer and his wife decided to take a day off and go visit their neighbors, they'd say that they were "going neighboring".

Because there were few outside distractions, it was easier for families to grow up together back in 1905. Family life was the centre of the universe. Pioneer mothers didn't need books to tell them how to raise children. They did it by instinct, and did it far better. Almost from the cradle, children had a sense of responsibility. The larger ones looked after the smaller ones. They did things together, divided up the chores, made their own amusements, helped each other with their lessons when the school was closed. Schools usually closed during the winter frigid spells.

Child psychology had not yet been invented. Nobody had to be adjusted or integrated, and the notion of "security" hadn't yet made its public debut. People were content to live the sort of life that appealed to them. It took all kinds of people to make the West. Each community had its quota of bums and no-goods and characters. People accepted them for what they were — plain, ordinary, lazy, no-goods; not victims of some environmental or psychological quirk or accident.

The year 1905 was the great year of the individualist, not only here but the world over. If some divine discontent stirred the innards of the people of Austria, Wales, Russia or England, there were agencies abroad who'd transport them half way round the world. People could go anywhere and find a way of making a living. Millions upon millions of people were engaged in a great wave of mass emigration.

What attracted them was freedom—freedom to get rich or go broke, freedom to do as they liked, where they liked and when they liked. The whole intolerable load of worries that plague people today was completely unknown.

The fourth freedom of the late President Roosevelt, "Freedom from fear," was closer to universal realization in 1905 than it ever had been before, or has been since, or is likely ever to be again. Nobody was afraid of anything, in those days; least of all did they live in fear of the future.

The JOHN DEERE TO DIESEL



## It's the Tractor That Will Turn More of Your FUEL Dollars Into PROFIT Dollars

Meet the new world's fuel economy champion—the brand-new 4-5 plow John Deere Model "70" Standard Diesel. In recent tests at Lincoln, Nebraska, the "70" Diesel broke the world's fuel-economy record held since 1949 by the famous John Deere Model "R."

The Diesel engine is a masterpiece of rugged simplicity with only two fuel pumps, two injectors, practically half-as-many, twice-as-husky parts throughout. Forged steel crankshaft has three main bearings for maximum rigidity and long life. The entire starting cycle is controlled by a single lever through a separate engine to insure easy, fast starts even in cold weather.

Better work features include wide rear fenders, oscillating front axle in your choice of fixed- or adjustable-tread type, adjustable rear wheel tread, short wheel base and differential foot brakes for greater maneuverability, deep-cushioned seat, and a roomy, stand-at-will platform.

"Live" remote-cylinder Powr-Trol and transmission-driven PTO are regular; Power Steering, "Live" Power Shaft, and 3-Point Hitch are available.

All controls are easily reached from seat or platform and the full-view instrument panel includes a Speed-Hour Meter and an electric fuel gauge.

Make a date with your John Deere dealer to drive the new "70" Standard Diesel. Try its power, its time- and labor-saving features, its comfort and convenience. You'll agree that this new economy champion belongs on your farm.

Available with

#### Power Steering



Every time you take the wheel, the tireless muscles of John Deere Power Steering offer you new freedom from steering effort and driver fatigue. Power Steering is optional equipment on the "70" Standard Diesel.

Ask Your John Deere Dealer for a FREE DEMONSTRATION

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,	eere Mode	free information on the "70" Standard Die	
Name			
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DERHAPS somebody should compile a Jubilee Year glossary of horse terms that were commonplace a few decades ago and are seldom heard today, meaningful words like farm-chunk, sweat-pads, Jack spavins, blinders, snorting poles and catch colts.

In our community a child was considered to be scarcely ready for the formal education of public school until he had a grounding in hamestraps, sin-gletrees, croopers and belly-bands. And if the youngster hadn't mastered the art of harnessing a horse, there was a fair chance he would be obliged to make his way to school on foot. Now, thirty years later, it would be risky enough to entrust an average farm youth with the task of harnessing a span of drafters.

Certainly it was nearly every farm boy's dream to own and drive the biggest and smartest team of Clydesdales, Percherons or Belgians on the road that led to town. A modern Cadillac brings no thrills to exceed those enjoyed by the farmer who drove a team of high-spirited draft horses down the main street on a Saturday afternoon and gave spectators the impression that it required every ounce of his muscle to keep these wild-oat-fed equines in polished harness from running away. The horses seemed to know that their manes had been rolled and tails carefully tied up for the occasion. It wasn't everybody who could roll a mane of course and on the performance, the amateur

## Horse farming was fun and hard work, too

horsemen and the professionals sweaty horse is unpleasant. could be separated readily enough.

For that trip to town with "the good team", there might be the added appeal of Scotch-topped collars that seemed to exaggerated the size of the horses and extra spreads of gay celluloid rings of many colors. In contributing to a man's rank in the rural community, his sup-

Beyond question, the least glamorous side of horse farming was seen at 5 a.m. when feeding began and at 8 p.m. when the chores were completed. Neither the farmer nor his hired man could hop out of bed at 7 o'clock, eat a piece of pop-up toasted bread and "crank up" the four or sixhorse team to be in the field at

But how was that long and thick winter hair to be reduced? There were two methods, one calling for hours and hours of grooming which made every farm boy think about certain advantages in city life. The trouble was that the hour of grooming seemed to make no appreciable impression upon the coat of hair. Still, the elder horsemen said it was preferable to the clippers that would cut the hair away more quickly. Moreover, to clip a horse completely was to rob it of its coldweather protection with brutal suddenness when the threat of frosty weather and chilling winds remained.

A four-horse team of freshly clipped animals facing a sudden cold spell in April could become alarmingly restless and probably develop notions of running away. An occasional spring run-away with disastrous re-sults could be traced directly to an over-ambitious job of clip-ping. And so, there was the compromise, clip the bellies and gradually reduce the natural blanket of hair by clipping until the last of the old hair was.removed at a time when the threat of cold weather no longer existed.

by Grant MacEwan

ply of decorative horse rings counted for more than the number of rings on his wife's fingers. Clearly, anyone who never "dressed" a team for the local fair or for the Saturday trip to town, missed one of the rich experiences of farm life in those early years.

Of course, many of the dayto-day experiences that went with the horse era in farm power were not so glamorous. The man riding a seed drill behind a four-horse team ate enough horse hair to make a hair rug and the clothing of the horseman would often emit an aroma which, in later years, was considered unsavory. But there are still some loyal horse lovers who look with foul suspicion upon any person who will admit publicly that the smell of a

7:30. The chores to be done both before and after the days work in the field were inescapable.

Not only were the horse-man's hours long but preparation of horses and equipment began weeks in advance of the actual seeding operations in the spring. The horses that had been running out on the prairie or feeding around straw-piles during the winter were not ready for heavy spring work. Usually they were low in flesh und corried a cost of winter and carried a coat of winter hair that would do credit to a kodiak bear. They needed to be "conditioned" with hard feed and tedious effort on the part of the horseman. They needed oats and they needed to lose a lot of their winter hair if excessive sweating when working in harness was to be avoided.

#### Colts to Break

Oh, yes, there were the three-year-old colts to break, feet to be trimmed and harness to be made ready. Most farmers chose to begin breaking opera-tions before the snow left because a green colt was likely to make less trouble when hitched to a silent sleigh than when

#### Early Saskatoon



The wooden yoke had been supplanted by the collar when this picture of a three-team ox cutfit was taken in Saskatoon in 1908. The building at the extreme left of the picture was the Saskatoon Star office. It was later merged with the Phoenix to become the Star-Phoenix. The picture is from Grant MacEwan's collection.

worried by the rattle of a wagon that became more alarmingly noisy the faster it travelled.

But to hold the wild young thing in check, it was always hitched for its first lessons with an ancient worker that was long on both teeth and experience, of which every farm had one or more. Thus, though the colt might have rebel notions about running away and never coming back, the philosophical old team-mate refused to go along; one horse in the team couldn't run away without the other and so the younster recognized the necessity of settling down.

Invariably the horses that wintered out came in with overgrown hoof material and trimming was necessary. Shoes were not needed for field operations but over-growth of hoof could reduce general working efficiency. And in most barns there was one horse that refused to co-operate in the manicuring operations. He might be the quietest thing in the stable until somebody touched his feet and suddenly he became an outlaw.

No horseman surrendered because of a horse's objections, however, and the twitch-cord was brought out and twisted on the fighter's upper lip to make him so conscious of this new indignity that he forgot about the sensitivity in his feet.

Harness was never something to be taken lightly by horsemen of those other years. In the spring, the leather needed conditioning, just as the horses themselves. After hanging on hooks at the rear of the stalls throughout winter, the leather was dry and in need of oil. Neats foot oil was the thing. If there had been a recent beef slaughter, there might be a supply of home-prepared oil extracted by boiling the beef shanks; otherwise, an order went to town for a gallon of the stuff and then with some oil in a jam-can and a piece of dis-carded underwear for an applicator, oil was smeared on every surface of the harness leather.

With an effective oiling, the harness seemed to come to life. But there remained the matter of fitting it to the horses and the farmer who failed in this, had added trouble from harness-sores.

Most important of all was the fitting of the collar. After a horse had been allotted and worn a particular collar, it belonged to him and, on the Mac-Ewan farm at least, it was seen as a "personal" piece of horse property, like a pair of work shoes to the man who cared for the horse. A horse needed a collar that fitted, just as I needed shoes that came close to the size and shape of my peculiar feet. More than that, after the collar was worn for a few days, it adjusted itself still more completely to the character of the horse's shoulders.

Where men took pride in their horsemanship, switching collars was the unpardonable

And often, a horseman's qualifications were judged by success or failure in preventing shoulder sores. The most observant attendant didn't let the sores on the collar get started. When irritation produced inflamation or the wearing away of the hair at any place on the shoulder, the good horseman did something about it. Probably, he cut a hole in the sweatpad to furnish relief for the îrritated area. It was an obvious fact that it was easier to prevent a sore shoulder than to cure one.

Not very scientific were the "cures" for sore shoulders. Everything on the pantry shelf was tried one time or another but most often the remedial material was lime or axle grease.

Seeding time in those pretractor years was a season when neither horses or horsemen had such leisure except on Sundays. The MacEwan horses expected to see a human form enter the stable at 5 a.m. and receive their morning oats a few minutes later. Oats were followed by hay and for the balance of that early morning hour, there was the manure to be moved to the stoneboat occupying a position outside the stable door, the never-ending grooming and the harnessing. The attendant horseman could go to his breakfast at six o'clock so that he might be hitched and ready for the field work at seven.

The noon feed for the work horses consisted of a little less than one-third of the total day's hay ration and a little more than one-third of the day's grain. At night, the horses could expect their hay before the teamster went for his supper, with the grain feed and grooming left for after-supper chores.

#### Always on Time

The good horseman was a creature of habit in dealing with his animals, each operation being performed with punctuality befitting a school teacher. In his schedule, he might neglect his Saturday night bath but, if he believed in it, he never forgot the Saturday night bran mash. The mash was supposed to be both feed and medicine and it replaced the regular grain feed on that night. It was laxative and relaxing and with no field work on Sunday, Saturday night was the logical time for the treatment. The bran mash adherents supposed that their horses suffered less from colic because of the Saturday night treatment. Perhaps they were right.

Some day, some thoughtful person will raise a monument to the memory of that farm horse which did the heavy slugging on the pioneer farms and the horsemen whose sixteen-hour days were an indication of honest devotion to their charges. Perchance Jubilee Year would be an appropriate time for such a tribute.

"Chick losses mean profit losses! You can cut losses during the critical first 6 weeks — increase livability over 90% -- with 'MIRACLE' Chick Starter. It's an Ogilvie Feed - blended and tested to build strong, healthy bodies. Try it!"

### A. B. CUSHING MILLS LTD.

LUMBER - MILLWORK INSULATION HARDWOOD FLOORING-PAINT BUILDER'S HARDWARE

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LIGHTWEIGHT CONCRETE MASONRY GIVES YOU:

- RAT PROTECTION,
- FIRE SAFETY. STORM SAFETY.
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MANGE, low prices, rustling and the importation of Mexican stockers were the western cattleman's principal worries 50 years ago when the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan were created.

A three-year-old steer, no matter how long his horns, was worth between \$30.00 and \$35.00. And some of the horns were pretty long because many of the range cattle of the southwest continued to show evidence of their Longhorn, Spanish ancestors that came up the trails from Texas to stock the Montana ranges and then the Canadian ranch country.

South of the border and to a lesser extent in Canada, stockmen had enother worry; it was open warfare between the cattlemen and sheepmen with reports of violent clashes. From Oregon came word of a thousand sheep being destroyed in a single raid by mounted cow-boys with blackened faces.

Notwithstanding its youth-fulness, the cattle business of 1905 had already experienced a wide variety of ups and downs. The vast areas of unoccupied grassland bred challenge and buoyancy among cattlemen but there were sobering influences like marauding Indians, rustling white men and the ruinous winter of 1886-87 when, according to estimate, 40% of the cat-tle on the ranges of Canada and the northern States perished. Then there was the break in markets in 1893, with good steers being sold at two cents

But the ugliest thing to strike the cattle industry of the West in those years immediately prior to 1905, was mange. It was detected in 1899 and on September 5th, 1900, the North West Mounted Police, acting upon advice from Canada's chief veterinarian, issued a proclamation quarantining the entire ranch country.

A few cattlemen quit; the others, reserving the right to grumble and criticize the government measures, faced up to the big task of eradicating the disease. The Cattle Kingdom was organized for dipping and "dip-vats" were constructed at strategic points to serve the area. Those directing the work believed the mange was eradicated in 1903, but it broke out again in 1904 and the flag of Those directing the work victory was not raised until the new provinces were being given birth in 1905.

As reported in the second issue of the Farm and Ranch Review, dated March, 1905: "Mange has been practically eradicated from the herds and by the exercise of a little ordinary caution and care the cattlemen should have no further trouble with the dread disease."

Simultaneously, another bat-tle was being fought, the Battle of the Breeds. The Shorthorn was the first to win favor on both farms and ranches, but its domination was being threatened. The Hereford and Aber-

## There've been great changes in fifty years of beef cattle

deen-Angus breeds were at- had been trained for the track the '30's when the best steers tracting increasing attention and the Galloway, West Highland and Devon were still contenders for the cattleman's fancy.

Many of the ranchers were betting on the Galloway: D. H. Andrews, manager of the famous "76" Ranch, was on his way to Scotand in 1900 to buy Galloway bulls. In 1902, the Cochrane at Medicine Hat a few years before and was hailed as "the world's Fastest Trotting Ox", with a one-mile mark of three minutes flat.

One of the pioneer ranchmen recalled a big Longhorn steer that evaded the dipping vats and the roundups for several years when mange was the great worry. When finally

- by Grant MacEwan -

Ranch reported that it had 100 pure-bred Galloway bulls in service and the big Walrond Ranch was another that was leaning heavily on that breed. At the same time, the long-haired West Highland cattle that seemed to suggest haggis and whiskey, could still claim friends in the West and a few Devons were being tried.

But while the new and vigorous growers of pure-bred bulls were working to improve beef quality, the incoming Mexican cattle were seen as a retrograde influence. The southern cattle were small, long in horn and leg and deficient in muscle development. The one thing in their favor was their low price and many thousands were being shipped or driven from the South to the Canadian ranges. Some 50,000 crossed the border into Canada in 1902 and 30,000 in 1903.

Cattlemen con-cluded that those Fast stockers Mexican Trotters were even inferior in type to the Texas Longhorns, a few of which could still be identified in prairie herds. The Texas cattle were bigger and could run fas-

caught in a round-up net and was being proded along the chute leading to the vat, the wild critter's first inclination was to jump clear over the long tank. Falling short of his objective, he landed with a splash in the warm liquid and the man who witnessed the performance commented that when the big fellow climbed out at the other end of the vat, he bellowed his fury and "lit out for Texas at a speed that would have done credit to a Thoroughbred".

But the relatively primitive conditions that obtained in 1905, helped to illuminate the triumphs that were to follow. The ranges that supported buffalo just 30 years before, and a poorly-shaped type of dom-estic cattle in 1905 were able to produce national steer champions before another 50 years elapsed,

The breeders of pure-breds held the torch for the 50-year march of progress. It wasn't a straight road, by any means, and and there were enough reverses to discourage all but the stout of heart. There was drought with attendant feed famines; there was periodic uncertainty about export markets; ter. It was a Texan steer that there was the ruinous prices of

commanded three cents a pound; and there was the memorable foot-and-mouth disease chapter, still too recent to require much elucidation.

Bounced the cattle business was demonnant inherstrating an inher-

ent resilience. From the seemingly disastrous prices of 1933, cattle values soared to an all-time peak of 35 cents a pound in 1951, and recovery from the foot-and-mouth outbreak was more rapid than even the most optimistic could have anticipated. That the dread foot-andmouth plague had been identified in Western Canada was announced on February 25th, 1952, and on August 19th of the same year, Canada was declared "free" of the hateful malady. It was one of the greatest triumphs in the age-old struggle against disease. The pessimists who concluded they would not live to see the day when Canadian cattle would be permitted to return to the United States, saw that export market re-open to Canadian cattle just about an even year after the initial outbreak.

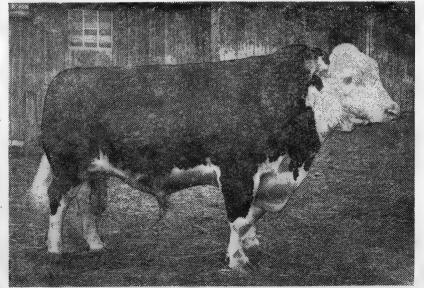
Youthful as the western provinces must seem, their breeders and their agricultural shows have made an impressive contribution to breed development. The now famous Calgary Bull Sale was started by the Territorial Cattle Breeders' Association, four years before Alberta and Saskatchewan became provinces and in the year 1905, the Calgary sale saw 340 head of pure-breds sell at an average of \$69.28; highest price in the sale was \$225.00 for a Shorthorn. Forty-six years later, 729 bulls went through the Calgary Spring Sale at an average price of \$1,119.86.

Regina Up to that year of 1905, the Was First new West had

staged stallion shows and cattle sales, but no real Winter Fairs, and it fell to Regina to provide the first. In that spring of 1905, Regina announced what its sponsors chose to call a Fat Stock Show and Judging School. Some familiar names appeared among the winners; Robert Sinton won the Hereford championship; Mutch Brothers of Lumsden won the Clydesdale stallion championship with their noted Baron's Gem; A. B. Potter of Montgomery showed the champion barrow, and George Kinnon of Cottonwood exhibited the steer champion which spectators said was almost as big as the champion stallion.

It was the first Winter Fair in progress at Regina in 1905

Prize Bull



This is the Polled Hereford "Variation", which was one of the outstanding bulls imported into Saskatchewan in the early days. His owner was Mossom Boyd of Prince Albert and few bulls had a greater influence on livestock quality in the West.

#### Early Winners



This is a very old picture of a group of prize-winning fat cattle at the turn of the century. They were owned by D. Fraser and Sons of Emerson, Man., and won prizes at the Winnipeg and Brandon Fairs.

that plans were made for the organization of the Saskatchewan Live Stock Association of which Robert Sinton became the first president. And while Regina's April show was the first with a Winter Fair pattern, Calgary followed with a show of similar type in the following month and offered helpful lectures on "the theory and practice of livestock production.'

Cattle types changed impressively after that year of 1905. Gradually the big ones gave place to smaller ones and boys' and girls' calf breeding contests, born at Brandon in 1914, spread quickly to other centres in the West and elsewhere. The idea was that of the late J. D. McGregor who was long regarded as the country's leading breeder of Aberdeen-Angus cattle; that good idea coupled with the 4-H Club movement to follow was to prove to be one of the most powerful forces in modern cattle promotion. The junior club movement helped to interest the changing market demands.

The steer The Last Heayweight Joe Donaldwon the son

championship at Brandon in the spring of 1912 weighed an even ton, but it was the last time that such a heavyweight could win the highest honors. The pendalum swung to the more low-set, broad-backed, compact cattle with deep and even fleshing and animals of the "baby beef" order had a long run of popularity before the same pendalum swung back moderately to divert attention to a middleweight type, young enough to be tender and old enough to possess good beef flavor.

The Beef Club movement took a score of forms, some big and some small. In a review of beef cattle achievements in the West, the gigantic and historic calf feeding enterprise at Sas-katoon in 1928-29 should not be overlooked. It was in the autumn of 1928 that the Saskatoon Exhibition, co-operating with the Saskatoon Board of Trade, obtained 1,160 white-faced calves from rancher George Ross of Milk River and distributed them to eager boys and girls.

Seven months later, on June 14th and 15th, 1929, over 1,000 of these calves were returned for a monster Fat Stock Show at Saskatoon, by about 400 youthful exhibitors, to quality for over \$5,000 in prizes. Not all the calves were finished for show, but most were and a lot of young people obtained their first inspiration to feed and show. And it was the biggest thing of its kind seen in Canada and perhaps in the world.

A review of 50 years of the cattle business must serve to remind students of the many able and colorful personalities who were part of it in this West, men like J. D. McGregor whose Glencarnock Aberdeen-Angus farm was hailed as the "Ballindalloch of America"; like John Barron who pioneered with his beloved Shorthorns; like Frank Collicutt whose Willow Spring Ranch once supported the biggest herd of pure-bred Herefords in the world, and like Mossom Boyd on whose Prince Albert ranch an important part of Polled Hereford breed foundation was being laid just 50 years ago.

Certainly nothing has advanced more during the life of Alberta and Saskatchewan than technical knowledge in animal production. Mendel's laws of heredity were just being redis-covered at the beginning of the present century. The word present century. The word vitamin had not been coined in 1905, and the science of nutrition has advanced farther in the ensuing 50 years than in the 2,000 preceding years. Farmers in that year of 1905 were being advised to combat grain rust by draining wet land and burning all old straw-pile bottoms. Warble flies were being fought with turpentine in squirt cans and many cattlemen were guarding against blackleg by twisting pieces of copper wire in the briskets of their animals. Thanks to research, the present-day cattleman has a huge advantage in producing efficiently.

The years since 1905 have witnessed notable changes and improvement in the type of the country's beef cattle and Canada's total cattle population has advanced to a figure close to ten million. But while Canada had more cattle than people 50 years ago, she now has only two-thirds as many cattle as people and, if nutritional standards are to be maintained for a rising human population the cattle growers of the country have a greater responsibility than ever.

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ROSTMASTER GENERAL

DEPUTY POSTMASTER GENERAL

OUR metal mail box, standing like a lonely sentinel at the end of the lane, or in sociable groups at the nearby road intersection, has become so familiar that it seems almost as if they were always there, beckoning the settlers on.

But our forefathers did not destination. have any such luxuries. They faced the lonely frontier of an undeveloped and unsettled country, without the comfort-ing knowledge that the mail would be delivered to them unfailingly once or twice a week. It was in the year 1876, that the first weekly mail service was established up the Saskatchewan River to serve the western half of Canada.

Prior to this, mail came in spasmodically, carried by anyone who happened to be travelling in that direction, although honors usually went to some member of the Hudson's Bay Company.

Since about the year 1824, in Governor Simpson's time, there had been a regular mail packet once a winter. This was carried by dog teams from Fort Garry to Norway House. Two more mail routes branched out from Norway House, one to Hudson Bay, and the other one to Fort Carlton. This was the meeting place for the various packets. The runner from Edmonton, and the one from Athabasca met the Fort Garry runner at Carlton, and carried the mail to various points from there. Just one mail delivery each winter, but it did much to relieve the loneliness and monotony of the western traders in Canada.

Even prior to this, Canada's inhabitants were not completely out of touch with the outside world, for the mail, especially letters, had always gotten through, after a fashion, Sometimes the journey took weeks, months, or even years, but ulti-

## The first prairie mails travelled C. O. D.

mately, they would reach their plied men for the purpose.

The method was crude. letter destined for a certain place, would be sold to an Indian, who happened to be travelling in that direction. Upon from 1900 and on, who were loreaching the end of his journey, he would in turn, sell the letter to another Indian who happened to be going further along for the convenience of other that same route, and so on, settlers near them. Mail was

For several years after that, the mail was handled almost exclusively by men of the police force.

Homesteaders in the years cated centrally in a community, often opened a small post office in a room of their own homes

route. This territory was via Priddis, Millarville and Kew. Trips were made twice one week and once the following

"Calgary Rural Route No. 3" was established on November 1st, 1908. Via Rocky View and Freshfield. The distance was thirty-five miles, and two trips were made each week.

"Calgary Rural Route No. 4,, was presumably established in 1908, but records only go back as far as 1915. The contractor for this route was J. Coughey. Trips were made three times per week, the distance being thirty-nine miles.

It is unfortunate that the records do not show the number of mail boxes served by these early Alberta mail routes.

The post offices of Elbow River, Rocky View, and Fresh-field have all been closed now for many years.

In Canada, it would seem that the important job of mail carrier, is not confined to men alone. An energetic lady of Nelson, B.C., is reported to have the longest mail route in Canada. She drives fifty-four miles a day, six days a week. Her route takes her along the scenic Lake Kootenay, one of the most beautiful drives in British Columbia. To make this trip, our lady mail carrier must cross on the ferry six times. For the important task of getting the mail through, she has chosen a modern jeep, as her mode of travel. She delivers mail to more than five hundred families, and for dependability, these families would vote for their lady mail

There are at least two routes in Alberta, one at Westlock, and the other one at Camrose, that have been serviced for years by lady mail carriers. In fact these two women have probably established some kind of a record for long and continual mail service for this Western Province, for prior to the big blizzard a few years back that rendered all roads completely impassable, the lady carrier at Westlock had not missed a trip in twenty-nine

After the blizzard, she, herself, helped to open the roads so that her patrons would not be disappointed the following week. Throughout the lean thirties, both women delivered the mail with a team and democrat, substituting sleigh runners for the wheels in the winter months. The mail always got through regardless of weather or blocked roads. Patrons along their routes, claim that they set their clocks by the visit of the women to their mail box. They are high in their praise of "mail ladies" for dependability and accommodation,

by Irene Louise Harrison -

tended. Each time the letter changed hands, it increased in value, and we are loath to won-der how many "skins" were col-lected when it finally reached the address, dog-eared and weary with its travels.

There is a record kept Long of a letter sent to Cap-Trip tain Back, somewhere in the Arctic, from London, in 1833. Ninety days later, it reached its destination, beyond Great Slave Lake. It had travelled twenty-five hundred miles, in the dead of winter, and had been carried all the way by men on foot.

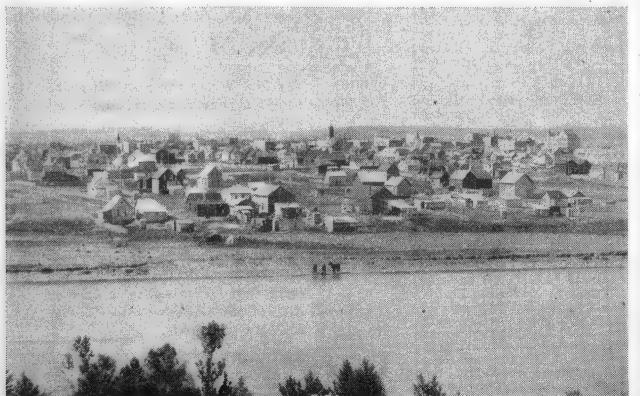
When the railway came through, about the year 1883, a regular mail service became more of an established fact. Arrangements were made with the government to have members of The North West Mounted Police, act as railway mail clerks, from Moose Jaw, westward. Detachments at Regina, Maple Creek and Calgary sup-

until the letter finally reached brought from the nearest larger the person for whom it was in- point that happened to be served by the railway once or twice a week. This duty was usually carried out by a man Occasionally, on horseback. however, a dog team was pressed into service for this important task. The neighboring homesteaders then called in person for their mail.

> The first rural mail First Route route, as we know them, to be established in Alberta, was on May 1st, 1908. This was known "Calgary Rural Route, No. The route took one via Springbank, Jumping Pound and Elbow River. Two trips were made each week, and the distance per round trip was fifty-six miles. J. Bateman was the contractor for Alberta's first mail route.

Later that same year, three other rural mail routes were established leading out from Calgary. These were, "Calgary Rural Route No. 1." R. Gillespie was the contractor for this

Earlier Calgary



This picture of Calgary, from the C.P.R. collection, was taken some time around the turn of the century.

## Westeel products celebrates fifty years of growth

ONSTRUCTION was booming in the Canadian West, when the Farm and Ranch was started. It was the beginning of an epoch in Canada's history which saw the virgin prairies being turned into farms and become "the granary of the world". Far-sighted business men were anticipating a period of expansion in the West. One of them opened a small plant on the banks of the Red River to fabricate sheet metal products. This was the beginning of what is now the Canada-wide organization known as Westeel Products Limited

Then it was named the Winnipeg Ceiling and Roofing Company. Its success was immediate. Outgrowing its original premises, the plant was moved and enlarged; new machines were installed, and an everincreasing variety of articles produced to fill the requirements of customers in practically every field of endeavor.

Beginning in 1919 with the opening of a branch plant in

Regina, a period of rapid expansion opened up for the Company, culminating with the founding of its most westerly branch in Vancouver in 1925. The name of the firm was changed to Western Steel Products Limited in 1920, and in that year two additional branch plants were established in Alberta at Calgary and Edmonton. Another Saskatchewan branch was opened in Saskaton in 1922. The firm name was again changed, in 1925, to Westeel Products Limited, an all-Canadian Canada-wide organization operating from coast to coast.

Damaged Goods. In Toledo, three youths arrested for stealing a car told Inspector Anthony A. Bosch that he should take action against the owner because the windshield wipers didn't work, the speedometer showed 94 when they were really doing 85, and the brakes were "awful".

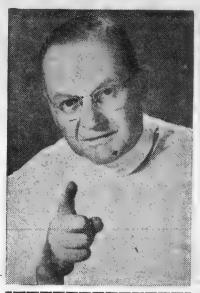
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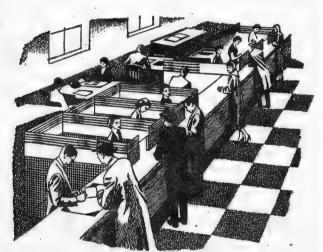
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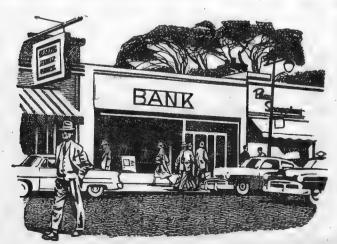
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### Ve had more birds and fewer insects, then

"How were the birds, bees, and coyotes way back in 1905?" the Editor of Farm and Ranch Review asked.

The question sent me scurrying around to talk with pioneer farmers who could remember the countryside fifty years ago.

"Well, we saw more wild creatures than we do now," one old-timer said. "That was partly because we didn't have fast

coveys of prairie chicken and half a dozen strutting part-ridges. There'd be all kinds of waterbirds at every pothole the potholes were everywhere then. We saw a lot of cinnamon colored bush-gophers, and I remember how badgers yap-ped at us from den-mouths as we jogged by. Maybe we've got more robins now than in the old days and I sometimes think

## - by Kerry Wood -

cars and broad, bare highways. coyotes are more plentiful. Old Dobbin was our motive are magpies — why, I never power, and he pulled a buggy saw a magpie on my farm back along a winding trail with trees in 1905! Seems to me it was growing so close that now and then a branch slapped across the driver's face.

We got much closer to nature than is possible today, and Dobbin's jog-trot gave us ample time to look around. Why, we considered it an uneventful ride if we didn't sight three or four

during the First War that those pesky birds came into our dis-

Another farmer spoke about kit-foxes.

"Wee little fellows, sharpeared and pale tawny in color, with a yippy bark and a squalling screech. They looked to be half the size of the foxes raised on fur farms. In fact, I once caught a kit-fox in a trap and was so surprised at the light heft of it that I carried it home and weighed it on our kitchen scale: that animal only weighed four pounds and five ounces.

"The first time I saw one was in '99 when I'd reached the homestead and was camped out on the prairie. I kept seeing a flash of eyes beyond the glow of the campfire and it proved to be a kit-fox spying on me. It chewed on a bridle rein while I slept that night. We'd often see them in the daytime; they weren't wary at all. Maybe that's what spelled their ruin, because kit-foxes were easy targets for anyone who carried a gun. They disappeared from our district thirty to forty years ago, but they were plentiful enough around 1905 and before." fore.'

Most pioneers agreed that birdlife was abundant during the early years.

"A man'd get out on a spring morning and birds were singing all around. I remember once giving my team a breather at the end of a tough furrow, and while I was standing there I counted more than a dozen different bird calls all sounding at once. Stands to reason they'd be more numerous, with nesting shrubs and trees all over the place that've long since been cleared away to make fields. Even out in the grassy open, birds could find ground shelter.

I remember one Special special bird I was fond of that lived Bird

fly away up in the air and then circle around in a large loop, whistling all the while. A jingling kind of song it was, far off but real musical."

Sprague's Piepit, perhaps?
This variety is called the American Skylark. They are still with us, though possibly not as common as in the days of native grass on the wide prairies.

"The wild flowers were every-where back then," an elderly lady told me. "Oh, my! I can still see how they looked! The hills back of our farm were literally covered with crocuses in springtime, while next the swamp we had patches of shooting stars that looked like huge pink bedspreads at a distance. Ladyslippers were easy to find - I always thought the yellow ladyslipper was the most beautiful wild flower we have in the west, but they're awfully scarce now.

"I liked many other blooms, too, such as the purple pea-vines, the delicate little blue harebells, the Minty Bergamots and the lovely red-orange Tiger Lilies. When my husband burned some brush to clear land, there grew a wonderful patch of that very pretty fireweed flower. Wild roses were all over the place — Oh, I know we've got most varieties growing wild today along fence rows, but back when we were homesteading, you could see flowers everywhere during the summers. I suppose it was because the ground hadn't been culti-vated and every field was really a huge wild flower garden.

Another lady spoke pleasantly about nature fifty years ago, then shuddered and added:

" Snakes were Too terribly common then. Our quarter-section was

just crawling with them; I expect it was because we had river frontage. There were times when I hated to go out and tend the garden, so many snakes were around. And I never will forget the day I set the baby's basket on the ground by the back door, where I could keep an eye on Billy while I planted peas. He started crying, and when I picked him up, there was a yellow and black snake right inside the basket. I went rushing into the house with Billy and put him on the bed, then I got my broom and went, somewhat fearfully, back outside to rout that serpent from the basket. But it had already slithered through the wicker work, and the last I saw of it, that big snake skittered right under our log house.

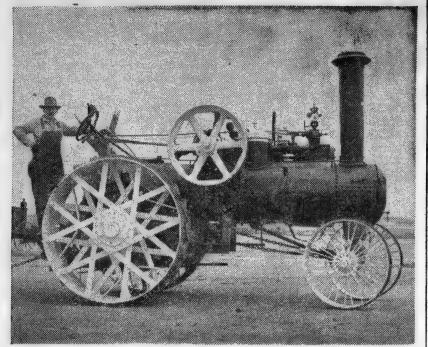
No, I don't think it was a rattler or anything dangerous. Just a garter snake. But big or small, I couldn't abide the sight of them. Along about the 1920's and later, snakes seemed to disappear and I haven't seen one for years.'

Buffalo had been exterminin the prairie part, ated on the open range by 1905.

At least, it nested on the So had the lordly wapiti, or elk. ground. But when it sang, it'd A herd of elk had to be import-



#### Late Steamer



All we know about this tractor is that is was one of the last of the steam models before gasoline or kerosene came into general usage.

ed from Yellowstone Park into the Banff National Park in 1917, to re-populate the mountains with a species that had once ranged from the Rockies to Lake Winnipeg and left us a rich legacy of its Cree Indian name of Waskasieu tagged on lakes, rivers, and creeks. Woodland caribou had been routed from their southern ranges; the animals are scarce to this day. White-tailed and mule deer were decimated around homestead regions, as pioneers hunted them to put meat on the table. The time came when farm families dined on beef and pork; then the shy deer ventured away from hinterlands to wastelands near rehabitate farms where wolves and cougars could not prey on them.

Some pioneers remember large white birds that stood tall in the marshes: were they whooping Cranes? Others speak in the past tense of white pelicans nesting on large lakes near farms, but we have pelican colonies scattered through Western Canada today. We still see sizeable flocks of Whistling Swans during spring and autumn, though the larger, 65-inch Trumpeter Swans that used to nest in Alberta and Sasthat katchewan have now been reduced to a pitifully few flocks. Only a handful of sage hens survive in arid wastelands now. Some of us believe it may not be long before the Sharp-tailed Grouse are as scarce as sage hens; in 1905, the clucking Sharp-tails were abundant in brushland districts.

"Oh, some critters are more numerous now," one keen observer told me. "Beavers, for example. Indians and homesteaders had trapped them scarce around 1905, but now, you can find the animals thriv-ing along wooded streams and lakeshores. The same with mink - maybe it's because we planted fish in our creeks and mink can have good eating again.

Another thing, I'm positive we didn't have many of those black-headed gulls around during the early days. Now they come in hundreds every spring to feast on cutworms, wire-worms, grasshoppers, and such pests. Gulls're just about the best bird-friends the western farmers have. Come to think of it, though — Back in 1905 we didn't have too many insect pests for gulls to feed on!"

#### Labor parties and the farmers

(Farm and Ranch editorial, 50 years ago.)

Signs are not wanting to indicate the ascendancy of the labor party in Canada. With the laboring class the Canadian agriculturist has no quarrel, the labor "party" as a political organization however he cannot afford to ignore. It is unfortunate perhaps that class representatives at Ottawa and the provincial legislatures should be increasing so rapidly. We have only to study the latter day history of the Australian States to realize what a tremendous evil such has proved there. All the Utopian, not to say, hare-brained schemes, that socialists and labor leaders were able to conceive have been ambodied in legislation and foisted on the public regardless of expense. The labor party in Parliament did not represent the tax-paying class. hence their indifference to increase in public expenditure and taxation. Land owners and capitalists are now at their wits end and farmers are complaining bitterly of excessive taxes and unreasonably high wages brought about in some colonies by government "relief" works for the "unemployed," at seven shillings a day and little to do while farmers are suffering from lack of help.



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ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

THE world's first practical track-type tractor was originated over 50 years ago to meet one of the agriculture problems of that day.

It was in 1904 that the Holt Manufacturing Company of Stockton, Calif., one of Caterpillar Tractor Co.'s parent companies, successfully tested this first practical crawler.

The concept of such a vehicle was hundreds of years old. Thousands of drawings had been made. Inventors had filed over 100 patents — including one juggernaut that was to have a main frame more than 50 feet in width, be powered by two steam engines and function as a combination plow, harrow, seeder and harvester. None was practical enough to achieve continuing commercial signifi-

The problem that faced the farmers in the soft delta lands of California at the turn of the century was plenty of rich fer-tile land, but no way to culti-vate it. The land, especially during the winter rainy season, was so soft that conventional traction engines would quickly sink down in it. Even horses had trouble.

Benjamin Holt and Daniel Best, builders of steam traction engines since 1890, both attacked this problem by adding larger and larger wheels to increase the bearing area. One unit Holt built in 1903 for farm use had three six-foot-wide wheels on either side which stood seven and a half feet high. The overall width of the tractor was almost 46 feet wide. Some of these huge machines weighed over 20 tons. They had the necessary power and rode high on

## The first "Cat" tractor walked over a quagmire

Holt decided to approach the problem by using the tracklaying principle. He did not immediately see the great potential of his idea. The few men working on the project counted it only a day's work and scarcely thought the idea would be multiplied hundreds of thou-sands of times. The new track structure was intended simply as a solution to a very bothersome local problem.

#### Big and Powerful

Testing of the first crawler occurred on Holt property near Stockton. Holt steam traction engine No. 77 wheeled its last on the way to the site. There. wheels were removed and a pair of the new track units installed. The result was the world's first practical track-type tractor — tested November 24, 1904. Here was a 40-horse-power machine that pulled four gangs of plows two inches deeper than the Holt 60 horsepower wheel model pulled three similar gangs! Holt figured the tracks had as much bearing surface as wheels 75 feet in diameter.

This original crawler was a far cry from today's powerful, compact crawler. Two big, box-like water tanks flanked a huge Over-all, the machine boiler. was approximately 20 feet long,

the soft earth, but they were extremely difficult to manoeuver and practically impossible production crawler made by Caterpillar Tractor Co. Its horsepower, on the other hand was little more than that of Caterpillar's smallest machine, the D2 (38 drawbar horse-power on the other hand was little more than that of Caterpillar's smallest machine, the D2 (38 drawbar horsepower). Track frames were nine feet long. Tracks themselves were made up of 42-inch blocks of wood. A tiller wheel extended out front in the belief that it afforded better stability and control. The tractor used straw, wood or oil for fuel.

#### Power Steering

The operator had excellent visibility; he sat so high, he needed a ladder to climb up to the steering platform. Another interesting aspect of this unit was that turning of the tiller wheel was accomplished through a steam booster con-trolled by the operator — an early example of power steer-

This old tractor was turned in the same manner as today's crawler tractors — there were separate steering clutches for each track. Steering clutches for the 1904 machine were of the expanding band type — instead of the multiple disc clutches in use today.

In an article which showed 16 feet high and about 11 feet a good bit of foresight as to the

crawler's possibilities, the Farm Implement News described the crawler's initial test in one of its early 1905 issues as follows:

"In a tract where a man could not walk without sinking to his knees and where tule-shod horses could not be used . ... the new traction engine was operated without a perceptible impression in the ground ... . This tract of land has been useless for crop raising for several years because no way was found to plow it, but the platform wheel engine brought the land into use again was, it is predicted that with the new device it will be possible to work any of the soft lands of the reclaimed districts and bring into cultivation thousands of rich areas that are now unproductive."

There were only six of these steam - powered, track - type tractors produced by Holt. After two experimental models, Holt built his first production model in 1906 and sold it a year later to the Golden Meadow Developing Co. in Louisiana, where it worked successfully in the rice fields for many years. The price was \$5,500. This unit had many improvements over the earlier models. The fire-box was moved to the front and the power mechanism to the rear of the machine. The jackshaft was raised from its former position on the main frame.

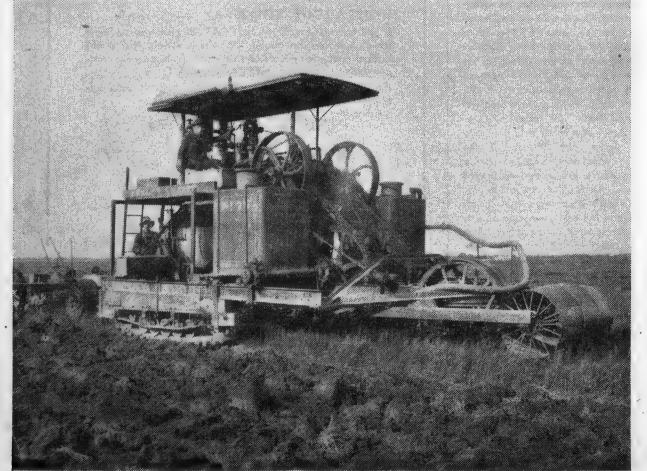
The many shortcomings of steam power were soon evident to Holt. He built an experimental gasoline crawler in 1906 and had these tractors in production by 1908. This was just the first of a series of improvements which have changed the crawler from a bulky steam unit into a powerful, efficient, compact tractor capable of doing a multitude of jobs, not only on the farm, but in many indus-

#### Trouble, trouble!

(From the Farm and Ranch Review of 1907)

The publishers of the Review are exceedingly sorry that they have found it impossible to get out a March issue and also that the April one is late. They have been at the mercy of the railroad companies in getting their machinery delivered and our readers fully realize what that means. Two carloads of our machinery were sidetracked for over six weeks. Some has not yet arrived, nor has the paper we ordered last January. We have \* had to make a patch-up issue, using more than one kind of paper and cutting down reading matérial, illustrations, etc., so as to get it out. We are a linotype short and have no assurance that it will arrive soon although it should have been here weeks ago, and owing to that, part of our matter is hand set. Nor have we been able to display our advertisements as we ultimately intend, for only part of our type has arrived. Our lithograph cover begins with the next issue. We trust our patrons will view this issue leniently.

First Caterpillar



#### The board the farmers built to cut interest cost

By FRANCES OAKES BALDWIN

loans to agriculture were un-applicant heard of. Interest rates on received. farm loans at that time ranged from 6% to 12% or more, depending on the district. Yet Over the years, the Farm Canadian farmers could look Loan Board has made loans to across to the United States and all types of farmers — dairy see American farmers getting long-term loans at across-theboards-low-interest rates from American Federal Land Banks.

In the 1920's, the farmers sent the Progressives to Ottawa, and one of the things they were told to attend to was the estab-lishment of a Canadian Land Bank which would grant longterm, low-interest loans. Farmers wanted loans which could be amortized — literally "killed off" over the years. And they wanted loans which, with interest and principal, would not amount to prohibitive yearly payments.

The government of the day asked Dr. H. M. Tory, President of the National Research Council, and the founder of the Universities of Alberta and British Columbia, to investigate the setting up of a Canadian Farmer's Bank.

#### Hopeless Outlook

"I have not met one businessman," said Doctor Tory, "who would say that he believed that any business, farming or other, which did not have the advantage of a protected market or of patent rights which in some way gave a monopoly, could continue to prosper paying 8 to 10 per cent for capital and a like amount for current borrowings.'

In 1929, the Canadian Farm Loan Board became a reality with Dr. J. D. McLean, a former Premier and provincial treasurer for the province of British Columbia, as first Commissioner.

The Board authorized to make loans at what was then a very low rate of interest—6½% with this rate applying in good and bad districts alike. Moreover, the loans were to be repayable in full by equal annual or semi-annual instalments over periods from 10 to 25 years. The farmer was to have the right of repayment WITH-OUT BONUS after two years.

still in effect. The Board was able to reduce the 61/2% interest rate to 5½%, 5% and finally to  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ . It remained there until June, 1952, when along the farm and partly from the with everything else in our son's wages in a near-by plant, economy the rate went up again paid off the remaining \$1,000. but only to 5%.

farmers built can be seen by to repair the barn and to buy the speed with which Canadian breeding cattle.

When the Canadian Farm farmers made use of it. In the Loan Board was established in first year of the Canadian Farm 1929, long-term, low-interest Loan Board's operations, 6,827 applicants for farm loans were

#### **Everybody Borrowed**

all types of farmers — dairy farmers and truck farmers; farmers and wheat All they ask is that chicken farmers. the individual is a bona-fide farmer, really farming his farmer, really farming his farm. White collar workers with a farm to which they retire on weekends need not apply Farm Loan Board loans. Neither should industrial workers who farm in their spare time. Loans are for full-time farmers only.

Loans are, however, of all sizes to go to all sizes of farms. Last year, CFLB made loans to farmers with 9 cows, 16 hens and a pig and to farmers with 10,000 chickens and 35 cows. They made loans to farmers with \$500 worth of equipment and to farmers with \$66,000 worth. They made loans to They made loans to farmers with a gross income of \$1,500 a year and to farmers with a gross income of \$80,000.

#### Only Farmers

The only qualifications needed for a Canadian Farm Loan Board loan is that the applicant is a genuine farmer and can satisfy the Board that he has the necessary experience and ability to successfully operate the farm and repay the loan. No attention is paid to race, color, creed or political affiliation. In fact, it isn't even necessary for the applicant to be a Canadian citizen. Farmer immigrants have received CFLB loans before they have been the five years in this country that is required for citizenship.

In fact, some of the most interesting loans the Board has made in recent years have been to immigrants. For example, there was a Dutch family, which came to the Maritimes in 1948. The father, mother and 17-yearold son were allowed to bring \$100 each with them from the Netherlands. All three members of the family worked in a small resort hotel which was open only from the first of April to the right of repayment WITH-UT BONUS after two years.

These last two provisions are
These last two provisions are
The farmer was to have the end of October. By the time the hotel closed down, the family had \$1,000 saved. With this \$1,000 they bought a rundown, 50-acre farm for \$2,000, including 6 cows. They put this \$1,000 down on the farm, and in the next two years, partly from

Then, out of debt, they took The need for the Board the a \$1,000 Farm Loan Board loan

#### WANTED:

Salesmen, Dealers and Distributors to sell our Genuine Knotless Baler and Binder Twine manufactured on new Mackhaul Gill Spinner by best, most modern mills. Our large buying power enables us to make large discounts to dealers and distributors. Liberal Commissions paid salesmen. We maintain warehouses in New York and Philadelphia ready to make fast shipments to Canadian Dealers and Distributors.

Please write us in English.

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ing it to — SUPPLY CENTRE,

Dept. 28, 120 Lombard Ave., Winnipeg, Man,



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the house and average supply of

water at the barn, THIS NEW BEATTY PUMP IS JUST THE

THING. Compact, low in price,

easily installed — it fills the bill for

many rural users. At the same time,

it has the top quality working parts

PACKAGE



AND GET THE

## **Best-Working Pump**

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A Beatty Pump will give more years of satisfactory service than any other. It is safer, more dependable, uses less electric current, because:

Beatty Pumps have bronze bushings for the bearings of hardened shafts, monel metal piston rods and many other makes do not have them. Beatty Pumps have DIRECT DRIVE, eliminating belts entirely. Direct Drive uses 30% less power than belt driven pumps, eliminates belt trouble and is much safer.

Beatty Bros. Limited, Fergus, Ont., Branches: Saint John, N. B., Montreal, Fergus, Winnipes, Edmonton. B. C. Representative: McLennàn, McFeely & Prior Limited, Vancouver.



"Comes complete with fittings and automatic air control, ready to wire and pipe."

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Please se	nd me f	, iterature	and prices	on your	low cost	pump for	general fare	A WEE.

MAIL

COUPON for Prices Literature

WHEN Saskatchewan and Alberta were formed 50 years ago, the C.P.R. had already been in business for 20 years as a transcontinental line.

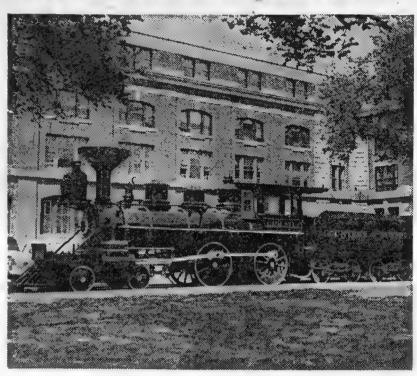
Building of the Confedera-tion link to the Pacific Coast was given over to private enterprise on February 15, 1881, when Parliament ratified the contract with the Canadian Pacific Syndicate. The fall of 1882 marked the first appearance of the Indian Head subdivision (from Broadview to Moose Jaw) on a C.P.R. operating schedule. August 11, 1883, is the date Calgary saw its first train. Last Spike Day was November 7, 1885, when lines from east and west were joined at Craigellachie, high in the Craigellachie, high in the mountains at Eagle Pass, and a train from Montreal went through to Port Moody to meet there the brig W. B. Flint with a cargo of tea from the Orient.

These four are Canadian Pacific first dates. They are important first dates for Saskatchewan and Alberta as well as for the C.P.R. and are to be considered along with the double-barreled provincial first of 1905. What was done by the railroad between its own firsts of 1881, 1882, 1883 and 1885 has much to do with the provincial firsts coming along when they did in 1905.

First for the "varnish"; as the old-time rails termed the passenger service then. It was really varnish in 1905, wooden coaches and sleeping cars and diners with a high shine, and hauled by steam. Now it is a gleaming stainless steel train, which, after the early spring of this Golden Jubilee year, will operate on a faster schedule behind diesel power.

The physical plant of the pioneer transcontinental road has grown to impressive size in the 50 years since 1905. There are now seven divisions from the point at Broadview where the time changes to Mountain Standard to Field where it be-

## The C.P.R. helped build and sellle the prairies



Now standing in retirement in Winnipeg is the old Countess of Dufferin, which was brought to Winnipeg on a barge, down the Red River to start railway service in the West.

comes Pacific Standard and two district headquarters — Moose Jaw and Calgary. The divisions are Regina, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon in Saskatchewan and Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Calgary and Edmonton in Alberta. It was five years after provincial status — on July 1, 1910 — that there was a Saskatchewan district on the railway. At one time the superintendency at Medicine Hat was the only one between Winnipeg and the Rockies.

Other changes are as great in the Canadian Pacific setup for this is much more than a railroad. Since 1905 two yearround hotels have been added the Palliser at Calgary and the Saskatchewan at Regina. The original Banff Springs and Lake

comes Pacific Standard and two Louise in the mountains were district headquarters — Moose expanded to carry out the order Jaw and Calgary. The divisions of Van Horne, the great builder, are Regina, Moose Jaw and to "bring the mountains to the Saskatoon in Saskatchewan people".

It was around the time the provinces were formed that the company's department of natural resources, one of Canada's great colonizing and irrigation agencies, was making its irrigation start in Calgary. The records show that the Calgary office actually colonized something like 6,000,000 acres. From 1904 when the C.P.R. went into irrigation, until the company went out of that business not too long ago, a round \$18,000,000 was spent showing what could be done with crops "under the ditch".

#### Big District

In Saskatchewan the road was no less an agent for filling up the empty spaces of the prairie and park-and-bluff country. In track miles, 3,615.2, the Saskatchewan district is the largest on the C.P.R. system and much of that mileage is in the great grid of branch lines put down in the 20's when construction was king out here.

Two new arms of the world's most complete travel service have important branches in the two provinces — air lines and highway transport. Calgary is eastern terminus of an important C.P.A. flight from Vancouver via the Kootenays, Regina is southern terminus of a run through Moose Jaw, Saskatoon and Lloydminster to Edmonton, which itself is a C.P.A. air hub to "down north" and to Vancouver where connections are made to the over-ocean flights to the Orient, Australasia and South America. For the loads that roll on rubber by Canadian Pacific Transport, Calgary is also an important point in the route from Winnipeg through to Vancouver.

Not the least interesting of the new looks in this company which knows there can be no real "last" spike is a piggyback experiment now running between Winnipeg and Regina in which CPT trailers move on C.P.R. flat cars between the two cities and are delivered at destination by C.P.T. tractors.

There are links with the past in the names for C.P.R. facilities in what are now Saskatchewan and Alberta . The Ogden Shop at Calgary is named for bearded, peppery I. G. Ogden, first great vice-president of the company. He at one time ran C.P.R. financial affairs from the vestibule of a Winnipeg church after fire had destroyed comof the general superintendent at Moose Jaw is the "Saskatchewan", successor to the first printendent at Moose Jaw is the "Saskatchewan", successor to the first printendent at Moose Jaw is the same wan in the same was the same vate car Van Horne had, with his choice of that name at that time another evidence of the man's unerring choice of what would appeal. He had to make traffic for the road he'd built, he had to fill up a new country and he missed no chance of letting people know where that country was.

For an oldtimer among companies there are some new wrinkles. Alberta Stockyards for instance and its trail-blazing move among major Canadian yards to sell by auction with auctioneer complete with mike. During the busy season animals go through the ring at a rate of \$1,000,000 worth a week.

Big Men

It is men that make railroads and make them run and the two districts west of the Manitoba boundary have some illustrious graduates in high places.

George A. Walker, Q.C.,

George A. Walker, Q.C., chairman of the company, was for years solicitor at Calgary and for a time was manager

#### Big Breaker



This old Cockshutt steam engine and 12-bottom plow seemed to require four men to operate, not counting spectators. There is the engineer, standing in the tractor; the fireman who is sitting on the tractor and two men on the platform of the plow. This picture is from the collection of Grant MacEwan.

## Every community has its own "Red Sandy"

By HARRY J. BOYLE

THERE'S one in every farm community. He ambles along casually from day to day He ambles and week to week and year to year. His farm gets a little dirtier each year and the fences droop, the front porch of the house sags and more shingles blow off his barn.

The one in our community is called Red Sandy, a gentle, little man with a brush of red beard, usually graced by the blackened stump of a pipe. He drives an old Model T which is continually running out of gas. He never worries.

Somehow or other Red Sandy always gets enough to eat, bestirring himself just in time to get some harvest planted or harvested. When tax time comes along he has a load of pigs or some calves that have been running with the cows. Besides that, Jeannie has a wonderful flock of hens and chickens and a few geese that are killed off for special occasions such as Christmas.

Red Sandy was fortunate enough to have an industrious father who left him a fairly good farm with a wisp of mortgage on it. For two or three years after he married Jeannie he worked diligently and cleared the mortgage and bought the shiny, new Model T.

Then he changed. He lost his crop one year and he seeded only a few acres the next. He harvested late that fall and an "easy-going germ" seemed to permeate his blood system from then on.

"What's the use of running," he used to say, pointing with his pipe to the cemetery down by the dirk, "That place is full of people that ran right into it. Can't think when you're run-ning. The only way to think is to stroll or to sit down.

of the department of natural resources.

The president, W. A. Mather, was general superintendent at Moose Jaw and at Calgary during his western stay.

N. R. Crump, senior vice-president, worked at Suther-land, Wilkie, Moose Jaw, Regina, Lethbridge and Calgary from night foreman to division master mechanic.

The close to 7,000 miles of track in the two provinces have known their share of characters in the rank-and-file, and the su-pervisory staff too. At Medicine Hat they tell of the two locomotive engineers who had differences and of how one painted the white horse of the other with black stripes and called him Zebra when his rival was out on the line.

It has been a section which

Red Sandy does a lot of sitting and thinking. He can hold his own with anybody in the township. It's Red Sandy who asks the really vital questions at the school board meetings and the township council sessions. Red Sandy, lounging on the bench in front of the hotel in the village, can hold his own with anyone, even the drummers who think they can have some fun with a character in faded overalls, battered slouch hat and red whiskers.

He helps all the neighbors. There isn't a bee for wood or threshing in the community that Red Sandy doesn't get an invitation to and attend. In fact, he often goes when his own work is waiting to be looked after. That doesn't matter to Red Sandy. There's conversation and good food at a bee and that's what Red Sandy is looking for at all times.

During the winter Red Sandy plays his fiddle at all the dances. He is always willing and ready for a house party at any time. On Friday nights he plays for the dances in the Township Hall. He plays very well, too. Everybody knows him and he keeps up a lively stream of repartee, directing it to the dancers as they pass by the platform.

The Agricultural Representative once called on Red Sandy and gave him quite a lecture. Red Sandy listened to it all, smiled at the proper places, nodded his head in agreement, chewed his tobacco and waited. When his visitor finished he said, "You see that farm down the road there. That's the Lestne road there. That's the Les-lie place and the finest in the County. It's killed six genera-tions of Leslies. I'm living and well. So's my wife. I aim to stay that way You go up and talk to Joe Leslie."

took its railroading "big" ever since the days when nine and a quarter miles of steel was put down in 10 hours for a record: with the Bryan brothers driving spikes with two strokes of the maul and Big Jack, the Swede, carrying 560-pound rails up a four-foot dump to a car.

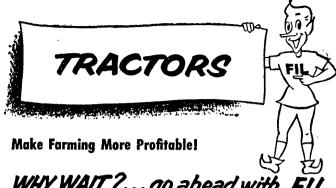
Always they had time for fun though. Take oil (and C.P.R. has been in oil since Royalite Number Four in Turner Valley came in on C.P.R. land) and the "lobby rules" for the Palliser Hotel as a case in point. The Palliser opened in 1914 shortly after the start of the first oil boom and it wasn't long before the locally-famous list of regulations came out "no more than one well shall be drilled in each leather chair or sofa (in the Palliser lobby) during one sitting. It is exhausting to the furniture."

Phone 21391 East of Hotel Noble 50th Anniversary of SOMERVILLE'S CALGARY MONUMENTAL CO. 121 - 13th Ave. West, CALGARY

#### WANTED:

Farmers in Southern Alberta to raise pigs on shares. Money provided to buy pigs.

Write Box XX, Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary



WHY WAIT?...go ahead with FIL

nearest Bank of Montreal manager. BANK OF MONTREAL

Discuss a Farm Improvement Loan with your

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working with Canadians in every walk of life since 1817



PLAN now to go Greyhound to the mild Pacific Coast! Liberal choice of routes . . . convenient schedules . . . stop-overs when you wish ... return on ONE TICKET at the same LOW PRICE!

## **VANCOUVER**

CALGARY - - - \$29.85 SASKATOON - - \$47.25 **EDMONTON - - - 34.95 REGINA - - - 48.40** LETHBRIDGE - 31.50 **MOOSE JAW - - 48.40 MEDICINE HAT - 37.05** N. BATTLEFORD 44.90 FORT MACLEOD 29.85 **YORKTON - - - 52.35** 

Tickets on sale to April 10th, Return limit April 15th, 1955.



I have no war with the automobile at all. It is with the manner that some of them are operated. No blame ought to be attached to an inanimate thing like an automobile. There will come a day, however, when only sane men will be allowed to run automobiles in public places.

And on the same subject:

#### Automobile vs. Horse:

If there is any field in productive agriculture where Western Canada shines, it is undoubtedly in horse raising. The advent of the automobile has, however, set many of our breeders thinking as to the future of the horse industry. The horse has successfully survived the bicycle craze and now when he promises to contest the field against the automobile with every prospect of winning out, Western breeders had better cease worrying about the "horseless age", which will only precede the "manless age" by a very short time, and be on the lookout for the best stallions their means can afford for the coming season.

\* \* \*
Want to go farming? Consider the following ad:

1/4 Section — Improved land.
38 acres under cultivation, 10 acres plowed, 2 houses, 26x50 stable; stock sheds, 2 wells, fenced and cross-fenced. Plenty of cheap adjoining land available. 1 mile to school. \$2,600.00.

No A or H bombs to worry about 50 years ago; still the scientists were working away:

The State of Montana has adopted a novel plan to rid the country of coyotes and wolves. Governor Toole has just approved a bill appropriating \$2,500.00 to spread mange among the pests of the range. By the bill the state veterinarian is instructed to secure a sufficient number of wolves and coyotes and infect them with mange, turning

I have no war with the automobile

## A Little Wheat— A Little Chaff

By IVAN HELMER

This being the Farm and Ranch Review's 50th anniversary we have gleaned this month's Wheat and Chaff from the earliest issues of the magazine. We have as much respect, appreciation and awe as anyone for the hardships, the almost unsurmountable obstacles overcome by the pioneers of the West. Still many of the things written, in deadly seriousness fifty years ago, have, just by the passage of time, and steady progress, attained the status of humor. For instance, an early writer's comment:

them loose as soon as they have a good dose of the disease. It is expected that the infected animals will spread the disease broadcast among their kind, and destroy them.

The experiment will be an interesting one and one that should be watched by the stockmen and agriculturists on this side of the line. It might be just possible that the remedy for gophers may be found along this line.

\* \* \*

On the subject of wolves; a door to keep one away from, "double dowelled, glued, of No. 1 Spruce" would cost you 65c. If you wanted to sit for the purpose, with a shotgun on your lap, you could buy a good kitchen chair for 55c.

. . .

The most elegant kitchen stove imaginable was to be had on a 30-day Free Trial, Money-Back Guarantee, for only \$34.95. It's doubtful if one was ever returned. Its weight was against it. It must have weighed as much as Jackie Gleason, Paul Whiteman, Calgary's Mayor McKay, and Man Mountain Dean combined. It was bigger than the furnace of a 1950 office building and wouldn't have left enough room in the modern kitchen for the week-end groceries.

It had 6, 9-inch lids, 15-gallon reservoir and a cooking surface of 30x40 inches and "an extra large warming oven". It "was nickel edged and plated throughout. The reservoir supports were of the most intricate iron fret-work. The entire front was of deeply etched fancy ironwork. No doubt a hard-driving housewife, enthusiastic about the job, could have dusted and polished this thing of pride and joy in a single day, if she put her back to it.

Didn't cost a fortune those days to rig the little woman out in some finery.

A white lawn waist would only set you back 59c, and a skirt to go with it of "the finest basket weave Cheviot" floor length, seven gores, and an inverted pleat in the back, was \$1.59. The finest high-button shoes (11 buttons) cost only \$2.49. Having got that far you could go all out with a Shore Mink, or Selected Muskrat shorty-coat (Jackets in 1905) for \$49.50. For a muff to match, with 4 tails, you would have to dig up another 8 bucks.

Even the old man could wear the best cloth coat obtainable for \$8.95 to \$12.50, and if he wanted to strut a little he could

go in choice coonskin for from \$52.00 to \$60.00.

It might interest the people who are still paying for Christmas to know that you could have got Mamma a "solid gold ring set with 2 or 4 pearls" for \$3.00. She could get rid of you cheaper— "a solid gold stickpin with one pearl" was going for \$1.50.

There was a little difference though, in those days, a dollar was quite a bit of money, and generally had to be worked for.

There was more freedom in 1905 than now, less restrictions, and free enterprise apparently meant free enterprise as witness the contents of the following two adds:

At Calgary, The Alberta Provincial Exhibition was coming up. An ad run by The Great West Liquor Co. advised that "a limited quantity of Gooderham Worts, 10-year-old, rye whiskey" was available at \$10.50 for a case of 12 QUARTS. And ended with the invitation to "Come in and SAMPLE it".

Of course you had to bring your own water in those days—the government didn't supply it for you.

A U.S. company carried an ad advising prospects:

Go Into Business At Home: and advertised a still for manufacturing Denatured Alcohol. The still had a capacity of from 100 to 200 gallons a day, depending probably on whether you wanted to work a standard day or put in a little overtime. It stated the cost of raw alcohol was 8c per gallon and was saleable at 50c. You could buy this outfit for \$550.00 on liberal terms.

Wonder how many purchasers of this machine were mean enough to polson their product in case it fell into some thirsty soul's hands?

They had a poetry department too, in 1905:

#### The Hen

Alas! my child where is the pen
That can do justice to the hen
Like loyalty she goes her way,
Laying foundations every day.
Though not for public buildings, yet
For custard pie and omelet
Or, if too old for such a use
They have their fling at some abuse,
As when to censure plays unfit
Upon the stage they make a hit;
Or at elections seal the fate
Of an obnoxious candidate
No wonder, child, we praise the hen;
Whose egg is mightier than the pen.

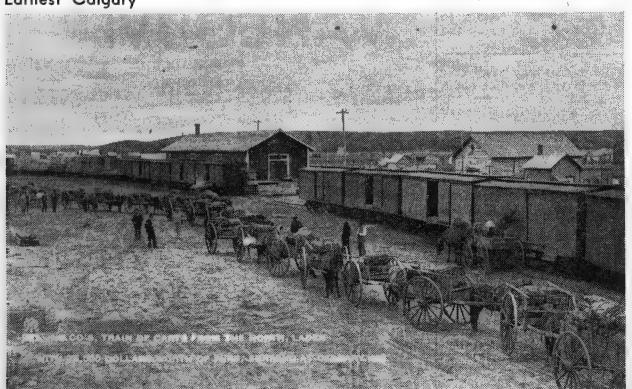
#### And a joke department:

The rebellious angels had just been cast out of heaven. In the swift downward flight Lucifer overtook Beelzebub. "What's troubling you, Bub?" he called.

. . .

"An old problem," answered the future foul fiend between summersaults: "Where are we going this fall?"

Earliest Calgary



This ancient picture shows the arrival of the train of fur carts from Edmonton at the C.P.R. siding in Calgary in 1888. The furs on the Red River Carts was said to have been worth \$75,000.

#### Pioneer Home



This is the old Fred Kanouse log house at Fort Macleod, Alta. The picture is from Grant MacEwan's collection.

A baseball player had two fingers of his pitching hand badly bunged up. After the local doc had fixed him up the player asked anxiously: "When this paw of mine heals, Doc, will I be able to play the piano?"

"Certainly you will," the doctor assured him.

"By George you're a wonder then, Doc, I never could before!"

And a Household Hints Department:

BACK: Take a common black-board slice only lasted a couple of days).

eraser. Fasten firmly to an old broom handle. If eraser is dipped into a little coal-oil it will take up all the lint and dust and polish the floor at the same time.

When tacking down a carpet stick a cake of laundry soap full of tacks. They are then easy to get; they go in easier, and I find, come out much easier when taking the carpet up again.

TO REMOVE WARTS: Use potato juice. Cut a slice from a raw pota-Rub warts with it two or three times a day for one week and they will disappear leaving no scars. (We TO CLEAN HARDWOOD advised our office boy of this, but he FLOORS WITHOUT TIRING THE reports a failure - says his potato

FREE British Colonial Stamps. 107 Different including Free Stamp Magazine. From far flung British Outposts, Africa, Asia, Caribbean. Send 10c handling charge. Approvals. Niagara Stamp Company, St. Catharines 458, Ontario, Canada.

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THE WESTERN PRODUCER

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Once again your WESTERN PRODUCER offers you the chance of a lifetime . . . Money and Merchandise!

Up to \$4000.00 in cash and a beautiful 4-Door Meteor Automobile may be yours for a little effort. The prize list tells you the wonderful news. It's Money and Merchandise. All you do now is fill in and mail the coupon below. By return mail you will receive complete details of this wonderful new contest. Mail the coupon at

#### THE GRAND PRIZE LIST

First Grand Prize	\$3000.00
"Promptness" Award	1000.00
Second Prize	1000.00
Third Prize	500.00
Fourth Prize	300.00
Fifth Prize	
100 Cash Prizes of \$5 each	

#### Three Merit Awards

- 1. 1955 Meteor 4-Door Sedan.
- Westinghouse Laundry Twins or International Harvester Upright Freezer (15 cubic feet).
- Canadian General Electric Ultra-Vision 21" Console TV or G.E. Combination Radio-Phonograph, or Mrs. America Kitchen.

IMPORTANT . . . You can earn three prizes in this contest. Aim at them all. You can win the Grand Prize of \$3000.00 plus the "promptness" prize of \$1000.00, plus the Meteor Automobile worth \$2800.00, and there are plenty of lesser prizes.

FILL OUT AND MAIL COUPON NOW

Contest Manager, THE WESTERN PRODUCER, 456 Second Avenue North, SASKATOON, Saskatchewan

Mail me complete details of your new "M & M" contest and tell me how I can earn up to \$4000.00 in cash, plus a 4-Door Meteor Sedan.

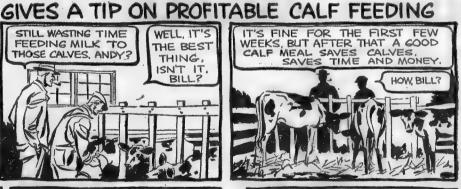
MY NAME ....

MY ADDRESS

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More and more dairy farmers across Canada are building huskier, healthier cows with MIRACLE Calf Starter and MIRACLE Calf Grower. These high quality feeds provide calves with the scientifically balanced nutrition they need to fit faster - and grow into strong-boned, profitable additions to your stock.

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So get your calves off to a stronger, healthier start. Replace or supplement whole milk with MIRACLE Calf feeds - MIRACLE Calf Starter and MIRACLE Calf Grower.

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#### ABSORBINE JR





### B. C's. farms and farmers have both changed

FRANK came back from a have been taking it out in more I drive through the Fraser Valley last month and told me that the farms had changed.

More than the farms have changed, too, and the change is more obvious if a long span of years has intervened between the times you last paid them a

Those who have been closely associated with the farming of recent years in the beef, butter, milk, and fruit which the soils have produced in abundance when they have been cared for.

But even before they were driving the freight wagons over the narrow canyon trails and following on foot or riding the faster stage, farming began to gain a foot-hold in the Fraser Valley.

by Jom Leach

British Columbia must draw hard on their memories to see the changing picture in the rural areas but if you stand back and look at the scenery from a distance the picture becomes more distinct.

The old trappers' standby was a knoll, hill or tall tree which he would climb to get his bearings. It gave him a better perspective than he had from the ravine or even from level ground.

We can use the meagre reports of farm organizations or the occasional diary of the farmer or his wife to piece together the early maps of the farms and to learn something about the character of those who tilled the soil years before our time.

But in British Columbia one need not go back many genera-tions to study the first farming venture. There are even some here today to tell the story of the agriculture as it unfolded in the province. They saw it as it developed from the natural forests that covered the valleys of the coast or the bunch grass that dotted the grazing lands of the interior.

There are some whose parents brought them on the long ocean voyage from Great Britain. They came up the Pacific coast on the steamers that plied between that large western metropolis of San Francisco and Victoria and then by smaller boat up the Fraser River to Yale, the jump off for the prosperous mining areas of the Cariboo.

Few in those days thought much about farming. The craze for gold kept them in a pitch of feverish excitement. The drudgery of a garden hoe or the mundane existence of a farmer were lost in the urgency of their thoughts of the precious yellow metal.

Not until they were reduced to virtual poverty did they be-gin to look around them. Even the fabulous prices they paid for food did not induce them to relinquish their hope for a rich vein of ore.

Eventually they found that the gold was in the ground but not as they suspected. They

The effort was limited. cultivated land was confined to a small area of 15 acres near the Hudson Bay fort established at Fort Langley. Even the commander of the fort in 1828 was disappointed with the site because he wrote to the com-pany's governor: "As to the farm, little can be said of it, all our operations that way being confined to the hoe. The elevated ground near the fort being already exhausted, did not yield us above 25 bushels wheat, 20 of pease and 10 of barley."

Some years later the farm area around Fort Langley had been expanded but no one suspected that the rush brought on by the rumors of gold would bring an avalanche of prospec-tors from over the world. The population of white people grew 500 times within a matter of three months.

Food prices skyrocketed. few of those caught in the whirlwind flood of the gold hunters began a search for land. But it was not until British Columbia became a crown colony in 1858 that the newly appointed Governor Douglas could issue land titles.

Land settlement grew slowly from then on in the new colony. Settlers pressed on across the prairies from their homes in Ontario and from as far east as the Maritimes. They came from England, Scotland and many from the continent of Europe.

Like the new settlers on the prairies they were neighborly. They had to be helpful. Few families could afford to be self reliant for they were all faced with the difficulties encountered in untamed country.

Heavy timber covered the good soils and they had no machines to tackle the tremendous stumps and trees which provided the first great obstacle to farming. As the bush was cleared and the roots grubbed out of the land with mattocks the teams were harnessed to the breaking plow. The land was cleared slowly.

But the first crops proved amazing. Grain crops produced exceptional yields of 150 bushels to the acre of oats. They were taken by boat to the mills manded by miners and other settlers.

Gradually, as the silt settled in the sloughs of the delta and pushed the ships out farther and farther from their early berths, the urban settlements began to encroach on the farm lands.

Networks of roads replaced the rivers as the artery of travel. Homesteaders moved away from the waterways. Acres of high land unsuited to grain farming proved ideal for small fruits and to poultry farming. Dairy farmers began to build up larger herds on the richer lowland soils.

Undreamed of obstacles to farming the new land continued to harness the settlers. Floods flashed disaster in the spring as the melting snows of the interior mountains rushed down the rivers to the sea. Big crops in good years went begging for markets.

Despite those unhappy occasions the early settlers found the country good. They found good neighbors and struggled together through adversity.

Dykes were built to keep out the flood waters. Drains and good farming kept the land in good tilth. Much of it continues after fifty years of farming to produce exceptionally fine crops. Harvests of measured acres of potatoes in the Fraser Valley have reached 30 tons or 1,000 bushels per acre. As many as 200 bushels of oats per acre have been recorded.

Despite periods of difficulty the dairy farmers have bred some of the outstanding indivi-duals of the several dairy breeds. They have won production records as well as the grand banners at International Shows for their champions.

A mild climate encouraged poultry an degg production. Led by several enthusiastic breeders

#### Most needed invention

(Farm and Ranch editorial, 50 years ago.)

It is conceded on all sides that the great obstacle to dairy development in the Canadian West is the milking problem. Our hope to develop dairying lies in the perfecting of cheap mechanical milking devices. The "Scottish Farmer" in dealing with the subject recently says that so many attempts have been made to produce a mechanical milking machine that possibly farmers have come to think that it is either time one was produced or that the attempt to produce such should be frankly abandoned. It is not likely that the mechanical genius of this country will acknowledge defeat for many a day to come, and the call for a succesful milker is so clament that engineers and dairymen with mechanical tastes have every encouragement to persevere. layers.

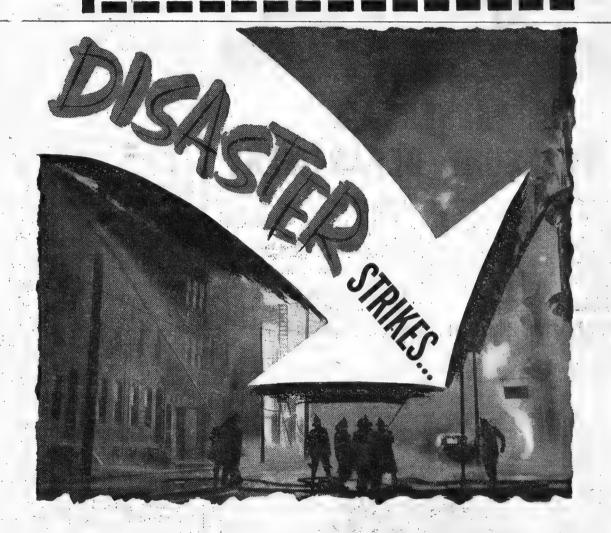
in Victoria where they were and laying contests they achiev- People working in the city of try in droves. rolled for the sturdy meals de- ed fame with their world record Vancouver are looking for a The large quiet place to live. They dream As Frank said, though, the dreams of fresh milk from their farms are changing. It is more own cow and fresh crisp vege- bush from which they were noticeable in the Fraser Valley tables from their own gardens. cleared, and the new settlers than in most other parts of B.C. They move today to the counhave changed, too.

The large farms with their spreading acres are being driven back slowly like the trees and



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## **ALBERTA'S** TREASURY DEPARTMENT

The Treasury Department is concerned with any governmental activity that involves the receipt, custody or payment of money. The department was established by an Act of the Legislative Assembly called "The Treasury Department Act" and is headed by the Provincial Treasurer.

The Treasury Department Act prescribes the main function of the department which is the management and control of revenue and expenditure of the province. Each year the Provincial Treasurer prepares a budget containing estimates of the amounts required to pay the various expenses and costs of government services, as well as the estimates of revenues accruing from various sources.

The Budget Speech, delivered by the Provincial Treasurer to the Legislative Assembly, is a general statement explaining the financial condition of the province and the fiscal program of the Government. The estimates are the amounts of revenue and expenditures expected by each department, and when passed by the legislature, they control the coming year's expenditures.



The Provincial Auditor, an official appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under the Seal of the Province, keeps the accounts of the province. His responsibilities involve the checking of each item of revenue and the approval of each expenditure. He prepares the Public Accounts in which all the financial transactions of the province during the last fiscal year are set out.

As the Treasury Board, the Executive Council frames regulations respecting the bookkeeping and accounting of the Government

The Treasury Branches Act authorizes the Provincial at points throughout the province. To date, 47 branches, 13 sub-branches and agencies have been established.

The Alberta Government Purchasing Agency Act is administered under the supervision of the Provincial Treasurer and the Director of Purchases is responsible to him. The Purchasing Agency purchases all supplies required by government departments.

Also attached to the Treasury Department is the Office of the Queen's Printer. The Queen's Printer is responsible for the publication of "The Alberta Gazette", which contains Government proclamations and official notices. This office publishes the statutes of the province and all other Government publications, and supplies all printing, stationery and general office supplies required by the departments.



The Provincial Treasurer administers The Retirement Annuities Act through which Alberta citizens may purchase annuities with a small initial deposit.

For administration purposes, the Board of Public Utility Commissioners is attached to the Treasury Department. Among its many responsibilities the Board regulates the rates charged by utility companies, protects the people of Alberta from unwise investments, approves debentures and regulates the financial activitis of local governments. In regard to milk control, the Board computes the average cost of production, a u d it s dairy plants and determines price charges for the consumer.



#### Pioneer Ranch-house



Who could roof a cottage like that today and hope for a satisfactory But lots of people could and did do the lob in the early days in Saskatchewan.

## pertus first

WILLIAM Harmon Fairfield, W founder of the Dominion Experimental Station at Lethbridge and farmer in his own right, arrived on the Alberta scene four years before this territory became a province. So, you see on this the Golden Jubilee Year of Alberta, this man can look over more than half a century of agricultural development in the knowledge that he played an important part in it.

To his close friends Dr. Fairfield is known as "Bill" Fairfield and he likes it that way for this famous "man of the soil" is very modest about his contribution to farming.

"It was just a job I had to do and I took a lot of joy in doing it," he once remarked in recalling the founding of the Experimental Farm out there on the bald prairie east of Lethbridge.

He was superintendent for 39 years of the Experimental Farm, retiring in July, 1945. He was succeeded by his assistant, A. E. Palmer, now in Pakistan on a mission for the Colombo Plan. Herb. Chester, who learned his agriculture at the feet of Fairfield and Palmer, is now filling their shoes at the Farm.

Big things were happening to agriculture in Southern Alberta at the turn of the century and just after. It was the era of the Great Rush. Land were pouring into the country to get some of the cheap homesteads in this land of the Big Sky and boundless plains. In 1906 a chap with vision from Utah, John Silver, grew a crop of 40,000 bushels of hard red spring wheat in the cow country now known as Wilson Siding southeast of Lethbridge. That crop made history.

Then, Dr. William Saunders, famed agricultural scientist and head of the experimental farm system, chose W. H. Fairfield as the man to start a new station in Southern Alberta to teach the settlers heading into the country by the thousands how to practice both dry and irrigated farming. Silver opened the era of hard spring wheat in this region—proved it could be done! Fairfield taught the farmers how to do it. And he has lived to see 35,000,000 bushels of wheat raised annually on an average on the Lethbridge railway division, while irrigation is headed for a million acres as new projects move toward completion.

Dr. Fairfield comes of pioneer stock — the fifth generation of the Fairfields who came to America from the Old Country in 1930. Part of them settled in Massachusetts; the Will Fairfield branch located in New York state near where the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt was born. In 1877, the Fairfields moved to Canada settling on a crown land grant near Kingston, Ontario, where Dr. Fairfield was born.

Dr. Fairfield did not stay in Kingston, he drifted back to the United States heading west to seek his fortune. At Fort Collins, Colo., he saw irrigation do-ing a great job in crop produc-tion. He was ambitious to master the know-how of farming so enrolled in the Colorado College of Agriculture, winning a pair of degrees there.

From Colorado he went to Wyoming and got valuable experience in farming. Back to Moreover, he heard Canada tales of the Canadian country just opening up to settlement. This caught his pioneer spirit and he now headed back to Canada, but this time to the West.

He arrived in Lethbridge in the spring of 1901 and soon after met the late C. A. Magrath, land commissioner for the Galts. They were introduc-ing irrigation to this region, with the help of Mormon irrigation farmer-settlers from Utah. Mr. Magrath, later Canadian chairman of the International Joint Commission, "sold" the newcomer Fairfield on irrigation farming in Alberta and the latter bought the Fairfield Farm, which today adjoins the Lethbridge city limits.

It was on that farm that "Bill" Fairfield started to do big things for agriculture in Canada.

Charles Ora Card, famed Mormon colonizer and founder of Cardston, met him and told him that for some reason alfalfa, basis of irrigation farming in the inter-mountain west, would not grow in this country. This got Fairfield to thinking. He read an article by Dr. Hopkins, of the University of Il-linois, about the need of inoculating alfalfa so that the young plants could take their own nitrogen from the air.

He was on the trail. He sent to Wyoming for a bag of earth from an established alfalfa field and Inoculator when it came he sowed it carefully on his field of alfalfa. The next spring the treated area gave a lush crop, while the rest of the field was spindly as ever.

Thus did W. H. Fairfield introduce the theory and practice of legume inoculation into this region and he still says this was the chief contribution of his career.

It was in 1906 that the Experimental Farm was established and Dr. Fairfield, "father of alfalfa" in Western Canada, was made its first superintendent. At the time there wasn't a tree between Lethbridge and Medicine Hat except along the river bottoms. It was still cow country. It was a gigantic task to start the station on the bald prairie, but he did - the hard way with a foreman and half a dozen workmen.

The beautifully treed station today, with its gardens and orchards, its test plots and herds of cattle and poultry flocks, tell the story of his work. It is a living monument to Dr. W. H. Fairfield. Much of the impetus to the thriving livestock feeding industry of today came from the Farm, also leadership in the conquest of soil erosion. A wool laboratory indicates what is being done in research and valuable work has been done in sugar beets and cannery crops, notably the promising "Early Lethbridge" tomato.

Dr. Fairfield's technical knowledge and practical experience on the land have ranged over many fields. His talents have been sought. Since 1907 he has been a member of the Western Grain Standards Board. He was a pillar in the old Western Canada Reclama-tion Association and helped to revive it a few years ago. He has been president of the Leth-bridge Exhibition Board and a crusader for trees and farm beautification. He has served on many commissions and has been active in the Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce.

It was in 1930 that he received an honorary degree from the University of Alberta and further honors came to him in 1943 when the King conferred on him the O.B.E. for outstanding service to agriculture. And so today, this great "Man of the Soil" looks back over the years with pride but with the fore-cast on his lips that the "best is yet to be" for this rich country he helped to pioneer and de-



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## **Proof From Western Farmers**

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"My soil is the loamy type and is "My soil is the loamy type and is highly susceptible to wireworms. For many years I lost a lot of my crop to wireworms. Then I tried 'Mergamma' C. It was the answer to my problem! Anyone farming soil similar to mine is foolish not to use it."

J. B. MURRAY, GRIMSHAW, ALTA.

"We wouldn't think of planting wheat without treating it with 'Mergamma' C. We always had good yields and didn't intend to use good yields and didn't intend to use it, but were told we should treat 50 acres just to test 'Mergamma' C, as that was the only way to find out if wireworms were in the soil. Did we get a surprise! 'Mergamma' C increased our yield by 15 bushels ner acre." per acre."
JACOB HOFER, Fort MacLeod, Alta.

"'Mergamma' C has certainly paid off for me. It has consistently given yield increases of from 8 to 10 bushels per acre—about a 30% increase. It is easy to use, relatively dust-free and has good adherence qualities." NICK ORTMAN, WEYBURN, SASK.

"I never received so much from any investment as I did for the small amount it cost me to treat my seed with 'Mergamma' C."

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"Ever since I started using 'Mergamma' C my crop yield has been on the increase."

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'MERGAMMA' C is a proven seed dressing, as these letters testify. The only sure way to find out if there are wireworms in your soil is to use 'Mergamma' C on part of your field. Then you'll see the difference... and will welcome the increased yield.

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TELEPHONE

T the end of 1954 I did a big A job of checking over the letters that came in from you readers and I filed them away for I know from past experience that if I dare destroy any let-ters, I'll be sorry I did. Although ters, I'll be sorry I did. Although you readers show interest in modern equipment and methods, I wonder if you realize what questions prompted the most women to write in to this most women to write in to this accordant? Maybe you'll be recipes before that I have read warm water is advised.

Let S Asn Accordant to the over it from a height of two or more feet. Also hydrogen per-oxide added to small quantity of warm water is advised. the questions that aroused the most reader-reaction were those dealing with (1) salt-rising bread, (2) homemade soap, (3) buttermaking, (4) auto knitters, (4) recipe for the cake named Queen Elizabeth cake. So it looks as if we aren't so "modern" after all!

Q.: I was given this recipe for homemade floor wax: yellow wax, one part; turpentine, two parts; varnish, one part. Where can I procure yellow wax, our local stores do not keep it?— (Mrs. C. B., Climax, Sask.)



#### Let's Ask Aunt Sal . . .

were well recommended. (1) Melt ½ lb. of beeswax into 1 quart turpentine, then add 2 or 3 tblsps. liquid ammonia. (2) Combine equal parts melted candle wax and turpentine. As to where you can get beeswax, I wonder if you wrote to this address: Early Seed & Feed Ltd., Saskatoon, Sask. They sell honey and possibly sell beeswax, too.

Q.: What is the best way to remove a wine stain from a tablecloth?

A.: Cover immediately with coarse salt. Leave on for a few A.: It seems to me that wax minutes then pour boiling water

column that I once saw the address, of the firm that handles the Brittanica encyclopedia. Could you supply this. — (Mrs. E. J. H.):

A.—This is the last address I have for this company: 471 Terminal Bldg., Toronto, Ontario.

Q.: You once mentioned that glycerin and alcohol was advised to keep frost from forming on windshields. What propor-tions do you use?—(Mrs. L. D.)

A.: I cannot find that any of my reliable bulletins quote exactly what proportions to use. One that I depend upon the most just states: "Wipe the glass with a soft cloth dampen-ed slightly with glycerin then follow up with a second cloth dampened with alcohol." I presume the proportions used are not too important. (Any readercomments on this are welcomed.)

Q.: Several years back you gave us the recipe for cookies

that was, oh, so good. You called them Hungarian cookies. I've lost the recipe, can you please repeat it?

#### Hugarian Cookies

(So very good I am glad to

repeat this recipe.)
6 tblsps. butter, ½ cup sugar
(I prefer brown), 1 whole egg
and 2 yolks, 1 cup bread flour, 1 tsp. cinnamon, ½ cup chopped walnuts.

Method: Cream shortening and sugar. Add whole egg and extra yolks. Sift in dry ingredients and work well. Place on lightly floured board and really knead it. Cover and stand in cool place for ½ hour. Then roll thin and cut into desired shapes. Place on greased cookie sheet and paint with egg whites (not beaten) and sprinkle generously with finely ground nuts. Bake in moderate oven 15 minutes. Watch them carefully for they burn easily because of egg topping.

When drying clothes on a wire coat hanger, you can keep the hanger from rusting and staining the clothes by wrapping the wire in cellulose tape.

NOTE: All readers are invited to send in their home-making problems to Aunt Sal in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta. If you wish a private reply enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. There is no charge for this ser-

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#### BASIC ONE-RISING SPECIALTY DOUGH

Measure into a large bowl

1 cup lukewarm water

2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with confents of

> 2 envelopes Fleischmann's **Active Dry Yeast**

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well;

11/4 cups lukewarm water 3 teaspoons salt

A cups once-sifted bread flour

and beat until batter is smooth and very elastic.

Cream in a large bowl

3/4 cup butter or margarine Gradually blend in

3/4 cup fine granulated sugar Gradually beat in

3 well-beaten eggs

Add to yeast mixture, about a third at a time, beating well after each addition.

Mix in

3 cups more once-sifted bread flour

Divide soft dough into 3 bowls to finish as three specialties.



1. Butterscotch Nut Buns Melt 3 tablespoons butter or margarine in 8-inch square pan; brush sides of pan with fat; mix in I tablespoon corn syrup, 1/2 cup lightlypacked brown sugar and 1/s cup broken walnuts or pecans. Combine in a shallow bowl ½ cup sugar, 1 teaspoon cinnamon and 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg. Cut out rounded spoonfuls of dough, coat with cinnamon mixture and place in pan; sprinkle with any remaining spiced sugar. Cover and let rise until double in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 35 minutes.

2. Cheese Pull-Aparts Line bottom of

waxed paper. Cut half of dough into rounded spoonfuls; place in pan; sprinkle with 2 cups shredded cheese. Spoon remaining half of dough on top; grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 35 minutes.

3. Seed Buns Cut out rounded spoonfuls of dough and drop into greased muffin pans—each spoonful should about half fill a pan. Brush with melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with poppy seeds. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, 20 to 25 minutes.

#### Teaching children to save

By LOUISE PRICE BELL



DO you give your children almoney each lowance month? It doesn't matter how small the amount is, the idea of each child having a certain amount of money to plan on using during a given period is important to his or her later understanding of the value of money. The children shown here are being reared to give a partition of their allowances. portion of their allowances to their Sunday-school, put a cers tain amount in the little banks they are holding (and were supplied by a large bank in their nearest town) and then use the rest for themselves.

In the case of little Toddy that is only two cents for him to spend but he can decide interest in that important part whether he wants to get two of our economic status—saving. cents worth of marshmallows, or gum. His older sister gets a have their own banks from the larger allowance because she time they can remember anyhelps her mother in the home, thing, and be taught to put but she, too, has to "budget" their pennies and nickels in the her income. This is wise on the banks, for later depositing in part of the parents because it the "big bank".

helps prepare the youngsters for budgeting later in life when it is mighty important for them to know how and where their hard-earned money is to be spent.

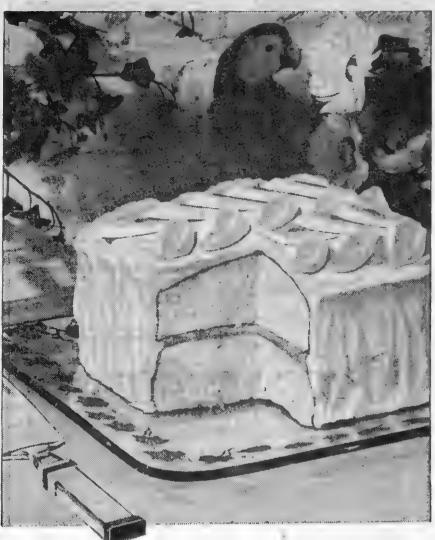
Children should be reared to understand that a "penny saved is a penny earned'. At an early age they should start their own savings account and as soon as they are old enough to do so, should make out their own deposit slips and take their deposits to the bank or savings and loan office. Even before they do this, if they go with Mother when she does her depositing they will be eager to do the same, which increases their

Even the little tots should time they can remember anything, and be taught to put their pennies and nickels in the

#### The Dishpan Philosopher

NOW is the month when we can sit around the fire and read or knit, or play some games, or write a few nice letters long since overdue. Or maybe you've set up TV which must, of course, to some degree with private projects interfere, or so at least it would appear. But some old February rites will none the less crop up these nights, like ordering our garden seeds and other coming spring-time needs. Because this month can't fail to swing the thoughts of worth to work and spring. Dreams of new plans to be of youth to work and spring. Dreams of new plans to be begun are kindled by the warming sun.

To me though February's best when taken as a month of rest. The daily chores are still to do but of a night when these are through I'm glad to find my own old chair and sit and think — or just sit!—there.



#### Bake it with MAGIC and serve it with pride!

## ()range-Banana (al

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21/3 cups sifted pastry flour or 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour

3 tsps. Magic Baking Powder 1/2 tsp. salt

11 tbsps. butter or margarine

1 cup fine granulated sugar

2 eggs, well beaten 2 tsps. grated orange rind

1/2 cup milk

1/2 tsp. vanilla

1/4 tsp. almond extract

1/4 cup strained orange juice

#### ORANGE-BANANA CAKE

Grease two 7-inch square or 8-inch round layer-cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Preheat oven to 375° (moderately hot). Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in sugar; add well-beaten eggs part at a time, beating well after each addition; mix in orange rind. Measure milk and add vanilla and almond extract. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a quarter at a time, alternating with two additions of milk and one addition of orange juice and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven 25 to Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven 25 to 30 minutes. Fill cold cake with orange cake filling; when filling is set, cover cake with the following Orange Butter Icing. Decorate with banana slices and orange segments.

ORANGE BUTTER ICING: Combine 1½ tsps. grated orange rind, 1 tbsp. orange juice and ¼ tsp. lemon juice. Cream 4 tbsps. butter or margarine; beat in 1 egg yolk and a few grains salt. Work in 2 cups sifted icing sugar alternately with fruit rind and juices, using just enough liquid to make an icing of spreading consistency; beat in ¼ tsp. vanilla.



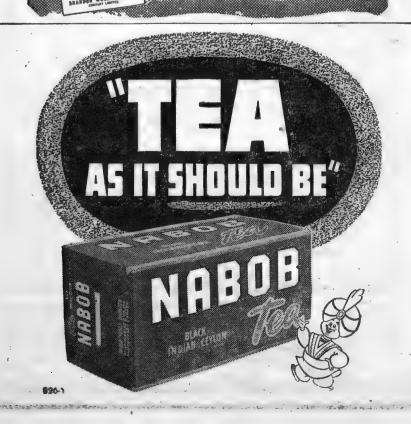


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#### Aunt Sal Suggests...

We wonder what did women do. Back fifty years ago.

How many changes have there been, In ways to clean and bake and

FIFTY years is quite a stretch of time in any woman's language. As likely all readers are aware, that is the length of time that this magazine has been in publication. During recent months two women wrote in and admitted they had been subscribers for all that time. was so impressed by this that I issued an invitation to anyone else in this "fifty-year group" to Please write me, won't you?

However, in the rush sur-rounding the yuletide season likely my invitation was overlooked, so I'm going to give it again. I'd honestly like to hear from you . . . and I'm sure it would prove interesting to younger readers to learn of what changes you had noted throughout the half-century. Please white me, won't you?

In one of the best known (that American publications has been in operation for fifty years, or more) they feature one column that is filled with quotes from that far back. never fail to read this and I thought it would be quite time-ly if I shared some of the most recent excerpts with you.

Now let's start with popular music. Fifty years ago, they tell us that the song on every-one's lips was, "Wait Till The Sun Shines, Nellie". This was, as most of us know, just a light optimistic tune but it has stood the test of time and we can't help wondering how many of the hit tunes of today will last that long. For instance the that long. For instance the song that is holding top position on the song hit parade this month is "Mr. Sandman Bring Me a Dream"

Flitting from songs to household mechanism, we are told that the first vacuum cleaner was brought into a few homes fifty years ago. It was dubbed "a suction machine" and it was a monstrous contraption weighing fifty pounds. I suppose there are still a few of them in museums and we can imagine they bear little resemblance to feather-weight, smoothrunning modern ones that housewives are using today.

Of course the old-time corn broom was the only sweeping utensil most homes possessed. To avoid the dust raised by sweeping, women used to tie their heads up in towels, but beauty-conscious lassies adopted pretty little caps that they named "mop caps", fashioned of muslin and such. I remember thirty years ago these were still the style, but we called them "boudoir caps". I suppose they weren't any sillier kerchiefs that we than the sometimes tie on over morning-hour disheveled locks.

We get so accustomed to

things as they are now that most of the time we think they-'ve always been so. There may be some things about the "Good Old Days" that were an improvement on the present, but I for one have no longing to go back to them. I've been taking an inventory today of all the things that play a part in my everyday living that would have been unknown fifty years ago.

Would you like to accompany me on my household activities during this one day and try (as I am trying) to see things through the eyes of a woman of a half century ago?

I awoke to a warm furnace heated room (how cold houses used to be in the early morning). I slipped my feet into toeless fur-trimmed mules and slipped on a chenille housecoat (instead of a flannel kimona). I brushed my teeth with a nylon toothbrush in a warm bathroom that permitted me to have a bath in comfort. (Remember those Saturday night washes in a corrugated iron tub?)

As I dressed I was very conscious of the materials that went into each garment rayon or nylon predominated and zippers played a big part. The preparation of breakfast was child's play on my gas range, and I found myself patting each modern piece of fur-niture with gratitude. What would the lady of fifty years ago have thought of the sink, the range, the refrigerator, the deep freeze and the chrome breakfast set?

After my house was tidied and luncheon planned I settled down at my typewriter that I'd set up on a card table in the living room. Did they have folding tables fifty years ago and were typewriters in general use? Well, not these little portables like mine, I'm sure. The sun streamed in through the venetian blinds and of course I asked myself, "When blinds first venetian made?" Over and over throughout today I've asked myself the same question regarding telephones, electric door bells and all the articles of furnishings that make up our homes today.

I know some of you readers will comment, on reading this, "Oh, yes, but Aunt Sal is talking of city homes ... we on the farms don't have all these things." I know hundreds of I know hundreds of farm women who do possess every single modern conveni-ence that I have ... some of them far more than I have. I'm happy and confident in predicting that before another 50 years rolls round we'll see conveniences so far ahead of today's that they'll make what we now call "modern equipment" old fashioned indeed. We read of what the atomic age is going to produce and we can hardly credit it just as they could not credit, fifty years ago, what

## Meditations at Twilight

#### How Easily Do You Ouit?

A BOUT 1932, after the bottom had dropped out of the world financial system, from which situation, in Canada, the Canada Bank Act had not only failed to relieve the strain, but had cruelly added to the people's burdens, as all the older people will recollect, an American newspaper published a picture with unique significance, accompanied by an explanatory note. I posted it on the wall of my den where I could see it frequently.

The picture showed quite a large bass swimming around in a glass-enclosed aquarium, in which there was a live minnow as well, swimming around, unmolested by the bass which, ordinarily, would quickly have gobbled it up.

The note explained that the aquarium had been built with a glass partition dividing it into two separate parts. The bass was put in on one side of the partition, and later the minnow was put into the other side. It was an excellent example of the effect of continued frustration, robbing one of initiative.

When the minnow was put in the bass made an all-out rush at it and went bang up against the glass partition, almost stunning itself. But it did not stop. Over and over again it tried, and always, naturally, with the same result.

Finally it gave up obviously deciding it was no use and the min-now was immune and couldn't be taken.

Then the partition was removed and the two occupied the aquar-ium together, and the bass never again tried to attack the minnow.

I put up the picture in my den and it was there throughout the depression as an inspiration to: "Keep on, Keeping on," as Harry Lauder used to sing, "to the end of the road", refusing to put myself on a level with the bass, though, before the end of the depression I had grave doubts at times when I discovered that a number of my lawyer and doctor friends, with their families were on relief.

## Country Diary

FEBRUARY'S weather is an topic everv interesting year. It is not an easy month on the prairie, and none of us who has experienced as many Februaries as I have would ever call it so. Skies are often dark with brooding clouds, and perhaps that is one reason why it has been called the Cinderella month after the despised little maid who sat and brooder darkly over the cinders. Cold winds sweep down from the Arctic wastes like wild horses with flying manes, and everyone who hurries indoors. School children come running home gasping with frosty breath, mitts and moccasins frozen [lucky if noses are not included] to dash helter-skelter into the lovely warmth of the kitchen where the kettle hums a tune, and Brian the cat lies curled up in a delicious grey ball of fur on the woolly afghan.

Two of the worst blizzards I ever remember happened in February, and bad days they were for man and beast, days of danger and hardship. But good days always followed a storm, when the sun seemed to come out with more brightness than at any other time of year.

electricity was going to produce.

Once more I am issuing the invitation to those of you who have been readers of the Farm & Ranch Review for fifty years to write to us ... tell us what changes you have witnessed and give us your personal reactions to those changes . . . please do! I'll place your names on our own Honor Roll and I'll write every single one of you a personal letter. Bye bye for now .... and every good wish. Aunt Sal.

Country snow is the essence of Country snow is the essence of whiteness, and the gold of the sun, the pale blue of the sky, the black tree-tapestry made a breath-taking combination belonging to February alone. Then the clear, sharp nights when one would look up at the fantagy of a flowering sky with fantasy of a flowering sky with spring flowers blooming in a dark-blue meadow, and winter moon ashine like a fullblown white rose, while no flowers bloomed on the desolate prairie below.

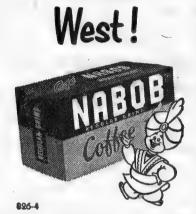
"February is a short month". says the impatient member of the family, "thank goodness for that." Yes, it is all too short when one is really working to-wards Spring. There are still some of the unhurried days and long nights to think of other things besides the weeds in the summerfallow and the progress of the crop. We have a little more time left in which to be alone with ourselves.

In mid-February comes a day which alone should redeem the month from its harsh reputation - a day dedicated to love on which to show our affection for dear ones. It might be the gift of a card adorned with hearts and arrows and cupids, or an egg-beater, a popular record, a wrist-watch — whatever it may be, it is given in the name of St. Valentine, the old bishop with the kind heart.

Later in the month, February 22nd, comes another day not so well known in Canada, but still observed as a mild feast-day in older Christian countries. It is known as Pancake Tuesday, officially Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, when the fast of Lent begins. The pancakes, made according to a prescribed formula were called "shriving-cakes" and

after they were eaten the populace flocked to church to be "shriven" or absolved from their sins. Hence Shrove Tuesday.

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#### Who wants good chickens? Not the city consumers

By LEONARD H. COOPER

VICE-PRESIDENT of the General Motors was once asked what was wrong with research. His reply was "Nothing, except that the people who should benefit from research, oftentimes do not choose to benefit.

Research, to those of use who have scientific training, is a wonderful course to follow but sometimes I wonder whether it pays the farmer to follow research too closely. Does the extra cost and attention to his stock repay him for his trouble? Does the average city and town dweller really appreciate a first-class product? Do they just buy food as a means to sustain life?

Frankly, I think that it would be a waste of time and money to produce "special" grade poultry in volume, although I know there are a lot of us who get a lot of satisfaction in producing a good pro-

At the fall poultry show all dressed poultry was auctioned. Our first prize pair of cockerels sold for 51.6 cents per pound. That is not even retail value for A grade. Our 2nd prize pair was knocked down for 36.6 cents per pound and only a difference of half a pound be-tween the two pairs. 36.6 cents

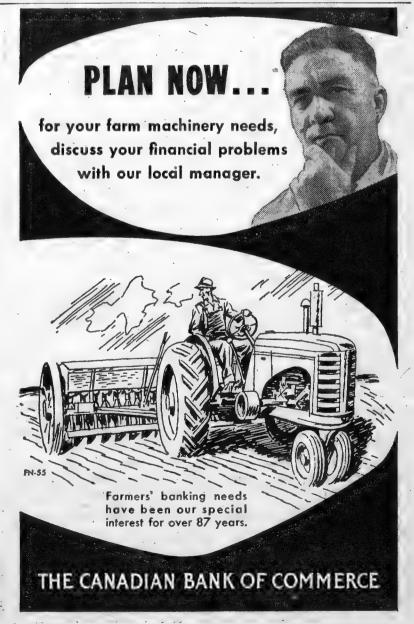
cannot be much above the live weight value of a Grade A bird.

The prices obtained for prizewinning, dressed turkeys were equally disappointing.

About a year ago I wrote of the value of feeding boiled potatoes and turnips to poultry. This research was continued in 1954 mainly to see whether the results obtained is 1953 could be repeated. It is a maxim of science that a thing is not true until it can be repeated at will.

The only change made was the feeding of boiled turnips earlier in 1954. We were able earlier in 1954. We were able to do this by bringing turnip seed from Scotland, a variety that matures earlier than the Swede and does not require frost to produce a good turnip flavor. We began feeding them to the young stock and layers the first week of August.

The young birds, Light Sussex, were hatched the 15th of May and very little potato and turnip was fed in wet mash (growing crumbles) at noon. Just enough that the birds could We reclean up in 15 minutes. duced the amount of potatoes and turnips fed to laying stock to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of potatoes and one pound of turnips daily per 125 pounds live weight.



When feeding potatoes to any stock it is essential that they be thoroughly cooked. If the tubes are diseased and improperly cooked, bacteria and fungi can be carried through the manure to the land.

#### No Spots

This year right up to killing time blood spots in eggs were reduced to practically nil, and at killing time the hens, Light Sussex, averaged 7 pounds and 2 ounces live weight. Last year we had a great reduction in blood spots when we first began feeding turnips twice a week, but our procedure this year has shown a great improvement.

The young stock had their daily ration of potatoes and turnips and we are quite satisfied with their development. The pullets, 25 in number began laying October 28th (no culling was done) and they rapidly came into fair production. By the end of November they had reached 67.4%. Week ending December 18th production had risen to 78.3%. Their best day was December 14th, when the 25 pullets laid 24 eggs. Throughout their laying period so far till December 31st, A Small have been 8.4%, A Medium 61.3%, and A Large 30.3% of their production. From the 19th of December to the 31st, no A Small have been laid and the A Medium has dropped to 44.5%, whilst the A Large has risen to 55.5%. From the first day of the pullets beginning to lay, no egg less than 17 ounces per dozen has been laid.

The foregoing results seem to point to the possible value of potatoes and turnips in the feeding rations for layers. Total number of eggs laid from October 18th to December 31st was 972 and two minute blood spots were detected at the grading station, a percentage loss of 0.21. Production over the period was 59.8%. Production for December was 77%.

No artificial light was used in the laying house.

Examination of the droppings showed there was a very good assimilation of food. Another very interesting observation is the total absence of feather pulling and eating. We are feeding the same maker's products as we have previous years when we have had some feather pulling. Last year it was quite bad in the young stock. Possibly feeding turnips enables the birds to get full value from the protein in the food and there is no desire to pull and eat feathers. Another year's research will have to be done to prove my theory.

The Light Sussex, being a utility breed, how does the above ration affect meat forming on cockerels?

On September 10th we killed three cockerels weighing 15 pounds live weight. They were then just under four months old. No special finishing was done. They had grain and growing crumbles before them at all times and at noon boiled potatoes and turnips mixed with the crumbles. They were starved overnight and killed next morning. Between September 10th and December 10th they increased about one pound in live weight per month.

The Alberta Provincial Show was held in Calgary on December 6, 7 and 8th, and for the first time we showed dressed cockerels. We exhibited two pairs gaining 1st and 2nd prizes. The four birds all graded "special". The winning pair weighed 17 pounds 4 ounces, and the second prize pair 17 pounds. There was a good entry in this class. Our winning pairs had no special finishing pellets. We had finished buying growing crumbles owing to the pullets laying so well.

At the time of the show we had only eleven cockerels left so had very little choice. The birds killed since the show, we think, are better finished than the show birds and they would all grade "special".

We raised 53 chicks to maturity and at the show we entered six in the live classes and four in the dressed. A total of 18.8% of the chicks purchased from a commercial hatchery were in competition. In the standard-bred classes we won 1st cockerel, 1st, 2nd and 4th pullet. In the utility, 2nd cockerel, and 3rd pullet. The utility pullet weighed seven pounds and was in full production.

In the egg classes we were fortunate to get 2nd Medium and 3rd Large. Having so few pullets laying compared to commercial egg producers we had very little choice. In the A Medium class we lost by one point and in the A Large the 1st prize eggs beat us by two points.

Here I will say that we can produce potatoes and turnips much cheaper than we can buy grains, crumbles and laying pellets, retail.

The duty on grain entering the U.S. is as follows: wheat 21 cents a bushel, oats 4 cents, barley  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cents, rye 6 cents, and flax 50 cents.

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## MEETING PLACE



#### **Everything but the Squeal**

A group of farmers were talking over the present method of selling hogs on a warm carcass basis. The question came up, "Does the farmer get paid for the whole hog?" One man recalled watching a government inspector at a local packing plant grading hogs. He had noticed that, before grading, each carcass was weighed on an automatic scale which printed the weight on the scale ticket. The carcass weight included the head, tongue, feet, tail, leaf lard and kidney, but he wasn't sure about the heart and liver. They all agreed that these parts were worth something too and wondered how they were paid for them.

This question is a natural one, so let's talk about it.

#### By-product Values Included

For the average market hog of 200 lb. the difference between live and warm dressed weight is 50 lb. Everyone who has watched an animal butchered has seen the internal parts removed—the heart, liver, stomach and intestines (with contents). These internal parts along with the hair and blood account for that 50 lb. About 30 lb. consists of stomach and intestinal contents and other waste material.



The remaining 20 lb. includes the heart, liver, raw fats (edible and inedible) casings, blood, hair, pancreas, spleen and scrap. Each of these parts has a value and make up what are known as "killing credits". Since the value of these items changes frequently, the total of "killing credits" varies, but the current value of all these parts is always added into the price the packer pays.

#### From Carcass to Cuts

Shrink in cooling and removal of the head, tongue, leaf lard and kidney reduces the original 150 lb. warm weight to 132½ lb.



On the cutting table the carcass is taken apart into hams, bellies, backs or loins, shoulders or

butts and picnics all of which require trimming. The total weight of these cuts from a good carcass, trimmed to suit the market, is about 94 lb. Lower grades require heavier trimming and yield a smaller percentage of saleable cuts.

The 38½ lb. of carcass removed during the cutting operation includes feet, tail, spareribs,



tenderloins, fat, bones and trimmings. Of course, these items together with the head and tongue, leaf lard and kidneys have a market value, and all constitute the "cutting credits". Like the killing credits they are included in the price the packer pays.

Thus, by the use of a detailed "cut-out" sheet covering all the various products and by-products of the hog, the packer arrives at the price he can pay for a whole animal on a 100 lb. dressed basis.



#### "DOC" BROWNELL'S CORNER

Seems to me that it makes little difference on what basis the packer buys hogs. The prices must reflect the value of all the parts in the animal. If a packer offers

too little in relation to meat and by-product values, someone else gets the hog. If he pays too much, he loses on the deal.

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### More letters from fifty years ago

#### Defending bachelors

Dear Editor:

door of our pioneer bachelors in

When talking about egg prices you should always figure your chick purchase on what you think egg prices will be six months from the time you start your chicks, not what the prices of eggs are now. We predict high egg prices for late Summer, Fall and Winter. To cash in on these prices, order your chicks now and be sure and order the right breeds for the job you want the chicks to do. We have three special egg breeds that lay more eggs on less feed. Three special broiler breeds and three special turkey breeds. Catalogue.

TWEDDLE CHICK HATCHERIES LIMITED

FERGUS

ONTARIO

your December issue.

First of all he charges us with using the same utensils for cooking, eating, etc., without washing. We would ask Mr. lors and subscribers of the Hunt if he in his civilized home Farm and Ranch Review to an- uses a new outfit average. swer the grave charges our es-Mr. Hunt cannot have very deteemed friend, F. W. Hunt sirable bachelor friends if they (whoever he may be), lays at the only wash their dishes when he or others call. He refers to unswept floors, to which we say we hope he has as clean floors in his town residence as the average bachelor. He also speaks of the unsociability of bachelors and we must say his illustrations of what he has seen, such as "Red River Jigs" on Sunday, as well as the very unedifying tales told on such occasions gives us a very clear occasions gives us a very clear idea of the class of "social animal" he runs with — —

Geo. E. M. Scott. W. H. Cox.

#### Hating packers

Dear Editor:

Cattle men, let us be up and doing, while washing for lice, digging for warbles, or dipping for mange, give a thought to the greater parasite; the bloodsucker with two legs.

A squint at Chicago will give one an inkling of the nasty way abattoir men make their money.

Oswald Palmer.

#### Down with Texas

Dear Sir:

I have been a resident of Western Canada for two years, and learning that quite a few of my old friends in Minnesota and North Dakota are becoming more or less interested in the Texas boom, and that land agents from that State are doing considerable "knocking" of Alberta, I want, through your paper, to tell these friends just a few of the things that I know about Texas that will surely make them take notice.

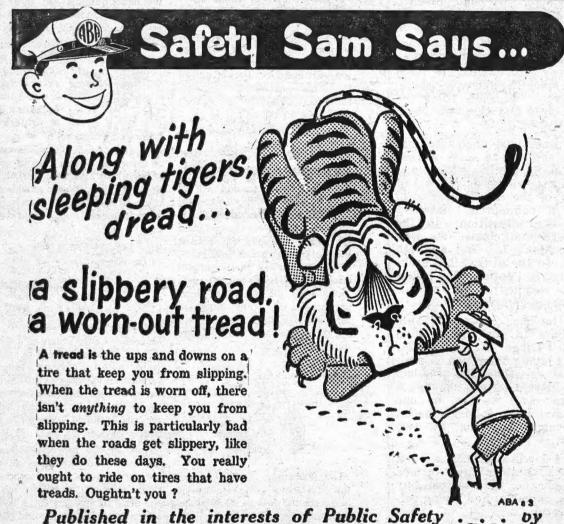
E. J. Martin.

Langdon, Alta. Coyote

bounties Dear Sir:-

It is with the keenest regret that the farmers and stockmen all over Alberta learn of the government's decision to discontinue the bounty on coyotes. Alberta is to be handed over to the coyotes as a preserve. Owing to the severe winter the rabbits nearly all perished and the food supply being exhausted the coy-otes turned their whole attention to the farmer's barnyard. It is a common occurrence to see a coyote in broad daylight sneak up to a fowl, snatch it, and disappear into a bluff. It is notorious the amount of cold lead a coyote can pack off.—
(Signed) Hayseed.

Belmont, Alta.



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REMEMBER...THE LIFE YOU SAVE MAY BE YOUR OWN



We were going for the cows one evening when we saw a partridge on the ground. It appeared to be quite tame, so my sister, Ada, got off her horse and went to pick it up. It was walking slowly away from her. After she caught it, she found a forked stick with the two ends under its wings and the larger end pointing forward in the same manner as a water sign man would do with a forked branch of a willow. My sister and my mother took some pic-tures of it the next day and then let it go.

Roselita Marsh. Box 264, Whitewood, Sask.

Last fall I saw many broken stooks in our field. I was very peeved because I had to do the re-stooking. I wished very much to catch the culprits, and one moonlit night I did. They were coyotes looking for mice. Right there my attitude towards coyotes changed. I was glad they killed mice in the grain field, though while doing it they did a bit of stook-breaking.

Mary Karpinsky. Ranfurly, Alberta.

When we were threshing a few weeks ago, our tom cat Mickey watched in all directions for mice. Just when he was getting disgusted, mice started darting out in all directions. Next morning, when we went on top of the barn, we found our cat with a stomach like a barrel and about twenty mice dead beside him. The next week all he did was sleep and eat the rest of the mice.

Emelie Grace. R. R. No. 3, Bowmanville, Ont.

On Saturday night, after we got to town, a man noticed that there was a hen riding on the axle of our truck. We left her sitting there while we went to the show. After we got back home, we found her still sitting on the axle. I think she was too scared to get off of her perch. Lorne Atkinson.

Laventure, Sask.

One evening, my brother, sister and I went out milking in the barn. My brother was finished milking first, so he showed us how to turn a pail full of milk all around without tipping the milk. He turned the pail around once, everything was fine, but for the second time, the pail went only half ways up and hit a rafter. Bang, the milk came running down his face and clothes and he got all wet. He really learned a lesson, for he also had to bend the big dent back in the pail.

Ben. M. Loewen.

Bagot, Man.

When Daddy was cutting the grass, he looked at some baby blackbirds that were in a nest. A blackbird with red wings swooped down and hit one of his wings on Daddy's back. Every time Daddy went to the barn to milk the cows, the blackbird would fly at him; and every time Daddy went to the workshop, or the barn, or the car garage, the blackbird would fly at him, because the blackbird thought that Daddy would hurt her babies.

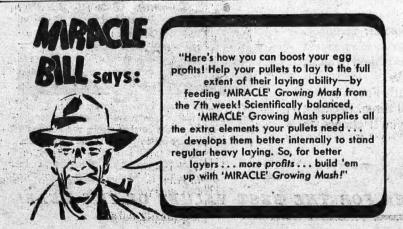
Jimmy Teasdale. Vermilion, Alberta.

#### Cost of wheat in bread

T takes about one pound of wheat to produce enough flour to make a pound of bread. In Alberta the standard size of a loaf is 11/4 pounds or 20 ounces.

Wheat flour is the main constituent in bread but actually the cost of the wheat used to make the flour plays a small part in setting the price of bread. Milling, baking, other materials, handling and transportation make up the greatest part of the cost. With wheat selling at around \$1.80 a bushel the farmer's share of the cost of a loaf of bread is only about 3 cents.

Canada's apple production this year is estimated at 12 million bushels, about the same as



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NEW 7-TON CAPACITY TRUCK BODY HOIST SAVE

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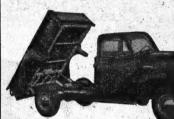
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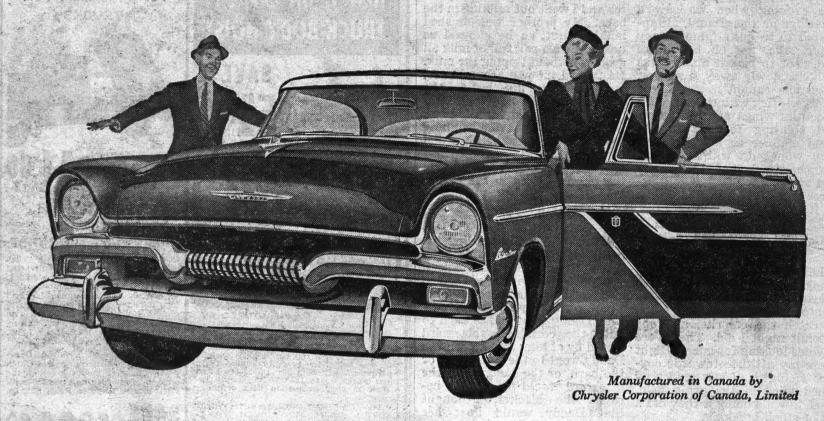
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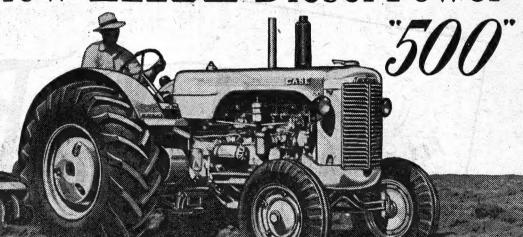


i field work than ider 5-plow Case the velvet-smooth d Combustion as see how easy it is irns. Wait 'til you

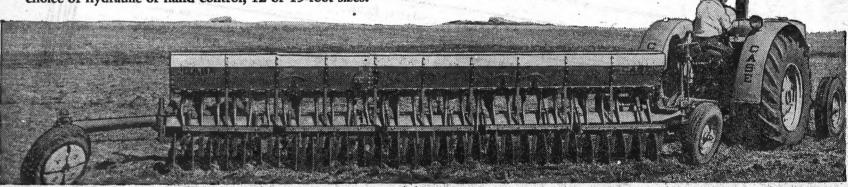
come to a really tough spot. Feel that mighty reserve of power fetch you through without slackening pace. If you like to hear mighty power talking, you'll thrill to the story that Case "500" Diesel tells of easy work on tough jobs, Now's the time to step up to Case Diesel power.

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Does double duty. New Model "S" Wheel-Type Disk Harrow does in one cut, owners say, what others need two to do. Pull a drag harrow behind and do two jobs at once. Throw drag on top of flat deck for handy transport. Built for fast, fine work in heavy going. Hand or hydraulic control.



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